THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL



standard contents

every issue does not necessarily contain all these contents, but they are the regular features which continually recur

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★ A glossary of abbreviations of Government Departments and Societies and Committees of all kinds, together with their full address and telephone numbers. The glossary is published in two parts—A to Ie one week, Ih to Z the next. In all cases where the town is not mentioned the word LONDON is implicit in the address.

IHVE	Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers. 49, Cadogan Square.	Sloane 1601/3158
IIBDID	Incorporated Institute of British Decorators and Interior Designers. 100 Park Street, Grosvenor Square, W.1.	Mayfair 7086
ILA	Institute of Landscape Architects. 2, Guilford Place, W.C.1.	Holborn 0281
I of Arb	Institute of Arbitrators. Hastings House, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand W.C.2.	Temple Bar 4071
IOB	Institute of Builders. 48, Bedford Square, W.C.1.	Museum 7197
IQS	Institute of Quantity Surveyors, 98, Gloucester Place, W.1.	Welbeck 1859
IR	Institute of Refrigeration. Dalmeny House, Monument Street, E.C.3.	Avenue 6851
IRA	Institute of Registered Architects. 47, Victoria Street, S.W.1.	Abbey 6172
ISE	Institute of Structural Engineers. 11, Upper Belgrave Street, S.W.1.	Sloane 7128
LDA	Lead Development Association. Eagle House, Jermyn Street, S.W.1.	Whitehall 7264/4175
LMBA	London Master Builders' Association. 47, Bedford Square, W.C.1.	Museum 3891
LSPC	Lead Sheet and Pipe Council. Eagle House, Jermyn Street, S.W.1.	Whitehall 7264/4175
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Whitehall Place, S.W.1.	Trafalgar 7711
MARS	Modern Architectural Research Group (English Branch of CIAM). Secretary : Trevor Dannatt, A.R.I.B.A., 71, Blandford Street, W.1.	Welbeck 4713
MOE	Ministry of Education. Curzon Street House, Curzon Street, W.1.	Mayfair 9400
MOH	Ministry of Health. 23, Savile Row, W.1.	Regent 8411
MOHLG	Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Whitehall, S.W.1.	Whitehall 4300
MOLNS	Ministry of Labour and National Service. 8, St. James' Square, S.W.1.	Whitehall 6200
MOS	Ministry of Supply. Shell Mex House, W.C.2	Gerrard 6933
MOT	Ministry of Transport. Berkeley Square House, Berkeley Square, W.1.	Mayfair 9494
MOW	Ministry of Works. Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1.	Reliance 7611
NAMMC	Natural Asphalte Mine Owners and Manufacturers Council. 94/98, Petty France, S.W.1.	Abbey 1010
NAS	National Association of Shopfitters. 9, Victoria Street, S.W.1.	Abbey 4813
NBR	National Buildings Record. 31, Chester Terrace, Regent's Park, N.W.1.	Welbeck 0619
NCBMP	National Council of Building Material Producers. 10 Storey's Gate, S.W.1.	Abbey5111
NEFMAI	National Employers Federation of the Mastic Asphalt Industry. 21, John Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.2.	Trafalgar 3927
NFBTE	National Federation of Building Trades Employers. 82, New Cavendish Street, W.1.	Langham 4041/4054
NFBTO	National Federation of Building Trades Operatives. Federal House, Cedars Road, Clapham, S.W.4.	Macaulay 4451
NFHS	National Federation of Housing Societies 12, Suffolk St., S.W.1.	Whitehall 1693
NHBRC	National House Builders Registration Council. 82, New Cavendish Street, W.1.	Langham 4341
NPL	National Physical Laboratory. Head Office, Teddington.	Molesey 1380
NRDB	Natural Rubber Development Board. Market Buildings, Mark Lane, E.C.3.	Mansion House 9383
NSAS	National Smoke Abatement Society. Palace Chambers, Bridge Street, S.W.1.	Trafalgar 6838
NT	National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty. 42, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1.	Whitehall 0211
PEP	Political and Economic Planning. 16, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1.	Whitehall 7245
RCA	Reinforced Concrete Association. 94, Petty France, S.W.1.	Abbey 4504
RIAS	Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland. 15, Rutland Square, Edinburgh.	Fountainbridge 7631
RIBA	Royal Institute of British Architects. 66, Portland Place, W.1.	Langham 5721
RICS	Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. 12, Great George St., S.W.1.	Whitehall 5322/9242
RFAC	Royal Fine Art Commission. 5, Old Palace Yard, S.W.1.	Whitehall 3935
RS	Royal Society. Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.1.	Regent 3335
RSA	Royal Society of Arts 6, John Adam Street, W.C.2.	Trafalgar 2366
RSH	Royal Society of Health. 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1.	Sloane 5134
RIB	Rural Industries Bureau. 35, Camp Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19.	Wimbledon 5101
SBPM	Society of British Paint Manufacturers. Grosvenor Gardens House, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.	Victoria 2186
SE	Society of Engineers. 17, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.1.	Abbey 7244
SFMA	School Furniture Manufacturers' Association. 30, Cornhill, London, E.C.3.	Mansion House 3921
SIA	Society of Industrial Artists. 7, Woburn Square, London, W.C.1.	Langham 1984/5
SIA	Structural Insulation Association. 32, Queen Anne Street, W.1.	Langham 7616
SNHTPC	Scottish National Housing. Town Planning Council. Hon. Sec., Robert Pollock, Town Clerk, Rutherglen.	
SPAB	Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. 55, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1.	Holborn 2646
TCPA	Town and Country Planning Association. 28, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.	Temple Bar 5006
TDA	Timber Development Association. 21, College Hill, E.C.4.	City 4771
TPI	Town Planning Institute. 18, Ashley Place, S.W.1.	Victoria 8815
TTF	Timber Trades Federation. 75 Cannon Street, E.C.4.	City 5040
WDC	War Damage Commission. 6, Carlton House Terrace, S.W.1.	Whitehall 4341
ZDA	Zinc Development Association. 34, Berkeley Square, W.1.	Grosvenor 6636



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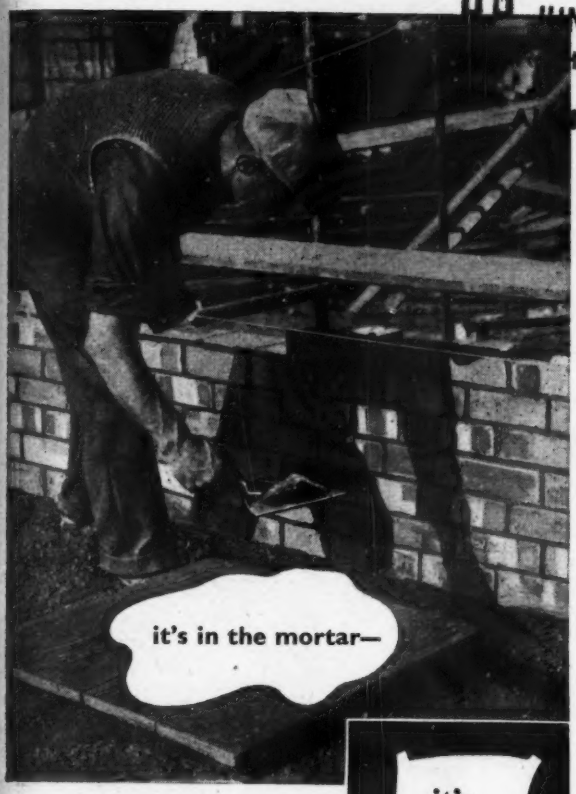
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NOT QUITE ARCHITECTURE*

CRICKET NEWS: VITRUVIANS v. *RIBA*

At the AA ground, Elstree

Readers, you are busy or you are past it or you never could or you haven't since school. Or is turning out mid-week nowadays simply Non-cricket-U? Portland Place could sooner convene a Conference in the Gobi Desert than eleven flannelled architects at Elstree. Once again she had to appeal to Bedford Square. Three students were hustled out and their efforts won the match. Vitruvius deplores this modern industry.

•

No alibis though. We batted like a lot of Kikuyus. With the new ball flying about off a green, springy wicket Boswell ran into double figures and then snicked out to Batty off Case; Skelton's good eye failed him when a fast Franciscan swallow skimmed the linseed oil and flew up to nest in Brock's gloves; and Bowden sadly dollied up a popper from Case. 13 for 3. At about this time our confident Skipper arrives at the ground.

•

"Pad up," he says cheerfully. "Pass it on." But how to deal with the other crisis? Where 19 telephone calls failed to replace the West Indian slow bowler who cried off at 10.30, Peter Winton Lewis has obliged in person. He came to watch but has stayed to play (cricket bag in boot of car) and he has changed. He is very happy. We are complete except for Bill Franklyn. Where is Bill Franklyn? Suddenly he bursts upon us cockahoop with the Stage's star batsman Geoff Chater (dragged from flat in town while wife out shopping). Confusion.

* *Meaning exactly what it says.*



Which Will Come Down?

Are you really an Outrage supporter? What would *you* do if a twenty-five-foot concrete lamp-post (swan-necked, broken-backed and far from elegant) appeared at *your* garden gate? If in doubt, consider the action of a handful of St. John's Wood residents. For its sins, St. John's Wood comes under the borough of St. Marylebone, and St. Marylebone has just popped in huge concrete standards along some of the most secluded roads in St. John's Wood. This was a needless and feckless Outrage—and a 24-hour Outrage at that, because the colour at night is as obnoxious as the shape by day. (Above is a side-by-side, before-and-after picture.)

When the Things threatened to move into Hamilton Terrace, the residents bearded their councillors, and told them in no uncertain terms how they would vote at the elections if nothing was done about the posts. The proceedings of a council debate made interesting reading. Councillor W. R. Willcocks said he was "opposed to the proposal in principle. If the Council had to notify residents before they went ahead with a project, it could have serious repercussions on their work." Councillor Herbert Sandford, a resident of St. John's Wood, said the Council had rightly decided to install modern lighting. . . . Concrete standards were hard-wearing and did not require cleaning. "The objections amount to less than a half per cent. of the residents," he said. Alderman Howard C. Rowe, acting leader of the Council, contended that the Works Committee chairman "could not agree to halting the scheme." Note the triad of local government values—bureaucracy, utility and inertia. Luckily the opposers stuck to their guns and forced a halt in the lighting programme so that lighting in the side roads could be reconsidered. The next step—which they hope to enforce—is to remove the concrete standards that are there already. Meanwhile the lesson is clear—be rude, be brutal and use your voting power as blackmail for all it is worth.

Embarrassment. We are now twelve. Matter finally settled with moving nobility on all sides.

*

Chater joins Boyd. They jack up the score to 21. Then Boyd plays back to a quickie unsoundly; bat there too soon, body there too late; a two-handed swing-round on a lamp-post; and Brock again obliges Francis. Worse follows at 38. Case bowls Chater. Chater steps across and back, shapes to force, checks himself, covers the break-back but the best ball of the day whips through.

*

Before lunch Batty has a bowl; slow left arm, very slow and high-flighted and very tempting. Dowson skies out to Linfield in the gully. A good catch. But then poor Linfield drops two exactly like it and Franklyn knows his luck is in. He loves slow bowling. He once caned Tony Lock for 17 in an over at Beddington Park. Today he scores 30. But the tail flags. When Self tires of sticking, has a go and is stumped we are all out for 88. Case 4 for 29, Francis 2 for 37, Batty 4 for 19.

*

RIBA knocked off the runs for 4 wickets. Dowson (3 for 17) bowled fast and well. So did Franklyn (1 for 28). They had Kennedy-Hawkes, Batty and Bishop out for 15. Then Sharma (see AJ for May 17) and Thomas, who were dropped 3 times, took it to 63 and RIBA were home. Too bad. It was those dropped catches. But Chater's catch at square-leg from Kennedy-Hawkes's mishook was something to remember. He ran in, flung himself flat, thrust out an arm and held the ball like precious china. It was a catch deserving more than Elstree's sightless hedgerows and square-topped, barbered, ornamental trees. It deserved handkerchieves on heads, scorecards as eyeshades, a tremor in a famous weather-vane and Hendren to record it. It deserved Lords.

ROBIN MUDIE.

The Teams:

VITRUVIANS: I. M. Leslie [Capt.] (*The Builder*); Self (*The AJ.*); W. H. K. Faldo (*Official Architecture & Planning*); R. Dowson (*The Architect & Building News*); R. Binfield (*The Contract Journal*); W. K. H. Bowden (*Architecture & Building*); W. Franklyn; D. Boswell; A. Boyd; K. Skelton; G. Chater.

RIBA: C. A. R. Norton [Capt.] (Hammett & Norton); J. Kennedy-Hawkes (Own practice); J. G. Batty (Father's practice); L. G. W. Bishop; S. K. Sharma (AA); D. P. Thomas (AA); D. Le M. Brock (Partner in James & Bywaters); D. Taylor (Own practice); R. Case (AA); G. Linfield (Fibrous Plasterer); H. Francis.

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* To preserve freedom of criticism these editors, as leaders in their respective fields, remain anonymous

The Editors

FREE HOLIDAYS ABROAD

DO you want to take your holiday on the Continent this summer? Travel abroad today is expensive, but as essential as ever for the architect and the student. Some architects can arrange to travel as part of their practice, some students win scholarships. For those architects and students who are not in the above categories, who have not sufficient means to travel on their own account, and who are prepared to do a little work, the JOURNAL is prepared to make an offer. For a limited number of students we will pay a sum which will normally cover their fare to the country of their choice, and we will pay an additional six guineas for every Working Detail they bring back which is published in the JOURNAL. For architects, we do not offer to pay the fare, but offer a fee of eight guineas for each Working Detail published. The Details do *not* have to be drawn. All that is required is a good photograph, a short description, and a really accurate set of large-scale working drawings, fully annotated in English. Full details are given on page 629.

THE ESSENTIAL SOUND BARRIER

Much has recently been written on the hazards of noise, a great deal being pure speculation. It is, therefore, of interest to learn of reliable results of work* on its physiological and psychological effects. Setting aside annoyance (because we cannot yet measure it) the chief physiological effect of noise is to produce partial deafness. Prolonged exposure, e.g. a normal working life, to loud noise has long been known to result in temporary deafness from which complete recovery may occur in anything from a few minutes to a number of hours; and if the noise is loud enough, this deafness may become permanent. It is now reported that the critical value is an average noise level of between 90 and 100 db. Noise levels of this order are, unfortunately, common in industry. As regards the psychological effects of noise, it seems that high noise levels only produce definite and measurable loss when people are employed at work needing constant and unremitting vigilance, but that when this is the case the critical noise level is the same. The short answer for architects is that when the noise meter in a factory tops 90 db. they should insist that the clients do something about it.

*A paper on '*Physiological and Psychological Effects of Noise*' read to the Physical Society by D. E. Broadbent.



NORWICH CONFERENCE

The RIBA conference at Norwich joins those which were held at Harrogate, Torquay and Canterbury as being in the new tradition of exchanging worth while opinion. Or so ASTRAGAL'S colleagues report, returning from Norwich sated with food, drink, sunshine and conversation. Of the main speakers, who had only to prècis their subject, as the papers had wisely been circulated in advance, Dr. Martin obviously engendered the most enthusiasm amongst the audience. He was followed, in the ensuing discussion, by two quantity surveyors, who described the advantages of cost analysis. Such early participation in the conference by members of another profession is an admirable example of the team-working which the leaders of the architectural profession now advocate.

*

On the second day the discussion was, apparently, even better. A constant stream of lively speakers made a wide variety of points. Unfortunately the two hours allowed were not enough. A further afternoon session would have enabled the audience to get down to detail, to have their questions answered, and to really learn and absorb the good ideas put across by some of the speakers.

The usual social events went off with the RIBA's and Allied Society's customary efficiency and hospitality, as far as ASTRAGAL could ascertain from the happily muddled reminiscences of his journalist colleagues. A crowded informal reception in the 18th century Assembly House, so well restored recently by Rowland Pierce (save for the modern light fittings); a garden party on the pleasant, sunny lawns of the Bishop's Palace, followed by a service in the Cathedral; and a dance in the Castle, amongst the display cases of the Norwich Museum and Art Gallery (but, wisely, not too near the "primitive man" section). For those who did not dance there were Cotmans and Cromes to study, as well as every animal from well-polished crocodiles to a large collection of fine-plumed bustards and a unique stuffed animal clearly labelled "Gents"—probably the only one in captivity.

*

The conference ended with the customary dinner. Nothing of very great wit or value seems to have been said. Charles Saxon was his usual lighthearted self, the Lord Mayor gave a useful description of the town's industry and of the amount the town has spent on building since the war, praised the JOURNAL for its special issues on Norwich, and appealed to architects to help unite old with new in the rebuilding of the city centre. The charming president of the Norfolk and Norwich Association, H. C. Boardman, in a rather too long speech proposing the health of the guests, pointed out that the architectural weeklies were unkind in being "awfully rude" about the work of local architects. In reply, the Bishop of Norwich, speaking with the polish expertize one expects of a bishop, told the architects: "we have no business to object to criticism," which leaves no need for comment by ASTRAGAL.

EXPANDING TOWNS

The LCC recently issued a very smart folder containing pamphlets on six towns ripe for expansion—Basingstoke, Bletchley, Haverhill, Letchworth, Swindon, Thetford. A covering note pointed out to industrialists that all these towns have ample land for expansion, assured labour supply, clean air, good communications and so on. Nevertheless, if ASTRAGAL lived in one of those innocent little towns he would do one of two things after studying the recent Hemel Hempstead exhibition. He would either sell and leave, or he would get elected to the local council and by hook or by crook ensure that they used only the most high-powered architect-planners available—those who would persuade committees to have what they ought to have, and like it, and not merely what they wanted.

LIVERMUDDLIANS, PLEASE NOTE

The Liverpool School remains, inexplicably, persistently a collection of live students in an (architecturally) dead city. Their feelings about their environment reached boiling point recently in an exhibition which they called "Outrage," in which they showed Liverpool's urban sprawl and post-war office blocks. ASTRAGAL was impressed by this exhibition, which was held in the shell of St. Luke's church, under a neat steel-framed awning designed by Peter Foggo, one of the final-year students. It was financed and built by the students entirely on their own, without staff help, and their obvious sincerity and hard work have made people realize that this is more than just another student rag.

*

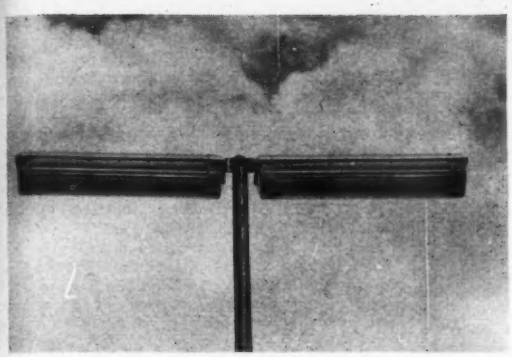
The students' protest is certainly needed. Ian Nairn, who opened the exhibition (which promptly closed again for the work to finish, a situation not unknown among more experienced exhibition designers), called the new office blocks Livermuddlian.

*

They certainly are: the riot of sprawl into the last shreds of the S. Lancs countryside makes the Hemel Hempstead exhibition look like a fragment of Siena. Most of the responsibility for this must rest alas! where the Liverpool students have firmly placed it—on the local architects and planners. Surely, if the right thing can be done in one town (*i.e.*, Coventry) it can be done everywhere else.

YOUR TASTE GOOD, MY TASTE BETTER

In spite of some excited twitchings of the grape vine before the meeting opened, the ICA's discussion on the








On page 624 is the story of a successful anti-outrage campaign directed at lamp-posts. The top three pictures here and the one on the left show the regrettable changes that have taken place in Piccadilly. Those on the extreme left show a commendable not-too-violent transformation in Hyde Park Square.

Design Centre proved not to be much of a brawl after all. The platform speakers—after Sir Gordon Russell had defined the aims of the Centre in so vague a way that there was nothing much to hit—removed the mailed fists from their velvet gloves, and shadow boxed prettily all around. Roger Falk, on behalf of the export trade, even apologised for making a constructive suggestion—that more space should be given to good display packaging; Oliver Lebus, after alleging that there were other outlets besides CoID for "showing the best," tantalisingly declined to name them; Ernestine Carter, announcing that she "cared terribly about design," contented herself with cataloguing a few Design Centre exhibits that were not for her, and Ernö Goldfinger (of whom the grape vine had high hopes) baffled the audience with some quotations from Sir Robert Peel, and then convulsed them with a comparison between the CoID and a man taking a horse to water and having to show it how to drink.

The floor of the house was not so easily charmed by Sir Gordon's Cotswold urbanity. The persistent theme was alarm at the implied imposition of a standard of "taste," and art-historian Michael Kitson drew a flesh-creeping parallel with the Royal Academy. Other radical criticism from the floor had its throat smartly cut by chairman Misha Black, who then spoiled the effect by revealing that far from being impartial, he was on one of the Design Centre selection panels, and that he, for one, thought that his own standards of taste certainly ought to be imposed. "With Government money?" queried one or two voices from the house, but he appeared not to have noticed.

SWEDISH ENTERPRISE

The other day ASTRAGAL was shown the drawings of a building so unusual that he can't think of a name for it. It is a kind of shopping-cum-community centre at Luleo, in northern Sweden, and it is being built by an expatriate English architect, Ralph Erskine. In this semi-Arctic region the winter is long and severe, so under one aluminium "umbrella" roof Erskine has put—take a deep breath—fifty shops, a restaurant, several cafés, an egg-shaped cinema, the Swedish equivalent of Woolworths, dance halls, exhibition spaces, and an hotel! The hotel actually rises above the main roof level as a slab-like tower.

*

The people of this flourishing iron-ore town and the surrounding area can do their shopping, eat, have a shave, or be entertained in centrally-heated warmth and comfort while the temperature outside may be twenty below. The building occupies almost a whole street block and will be completed this summer. It was financed by a group of business men and will cost something like two million pounds.

*

Did somebody mention our new towns? . . . or the City?

ASTRAGAL



H. M. B.
Peter Mathias, A.R.I.B.A.
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Walter Segal, Reg. Arch.
K. S. Meakin, (of Aero Research Ltd.)
John Brunton, A.R.I.B.A. (of Brunton, Baden Hellard and Partners)
K. H. Vickers

An Assistant's Guild ?

SIR,—I see that the serfs are in revolt again in your columns, crying for recognition of their worth (sic)! It is always difficult to equate the question of the salary of the unqualified with that of the qualified assistant, but it is so wrong to compare the practical experience of the U.A. with the theoretical training of the Q.A., as the "Birmingham Assistant" does in your columns.

If we are to believe him when he says he is worth his salt purely and simply because he has the practical background "which no school can impart" then one is to assume that the architect leaving school is never employed! But we know better—he is employed and, what is more, assuming that he is physically sound of wind and limb, reaches the age when he has matured sufficiently to have gained this practical experience. Who is then worth the greater salary?

A Guild of Architectural Assistants? One of my "most embarrassing moments" was to have ARCH. ASS. put in my Army Pay Book under the heading of Trade or Profession, and I wonder if G. A. A. would be any better. What do years of experience count for if they have not the merit of academic distinction to raise them out of the common run. After all, every assistant after say 10 or 15 years of employment is experienced, but for what? Offices do differ and there is always indifferent experience.

When a U.A. applies for a job I think it a good idea not only to bring a testimonial from his last employer (he may be only too pleased to be rid of him) but also a few from clients for whom he has done work at that office . . . come to think of it, this would be a good idea for all grades of assistants.

I am afraid that these people will always have a grouse but they must remember, to put it tritely—anything worth while is worth working for and no matter how much they wriggle and evade the point there is only one answer—get qualified. I'm going to.

H. M. B.

Trying It On

SIR,—It is about time that those who write to the AJ under the nom-de-plume "Architectural Assistant," "Unqualified Assistant," etc., stopped whining about their position and salary. The excuse used by "Another Architectural Assistant," Birmingham (AJ, May 10), that he had his training broken by war service and was unable to continue studying afterwards is unjustified. If the will to study is present and the student is ambitious, situations like this can be overcome. I do not say that it is easy, but to my knowledge many hundreds of people in the profession were in similar positions after the war and succeeded in studying full time.

I will quote only two examples of the many from my own time at the Liverpool School. In one case the student passed the intermediate examination externally before the war; married and had a family whilst in the army and afterwards obtained entrance to Liverpool. To obtain extra money he worked in offices during the vacations, yet he successfully obtained an honours degree and completed the postgraduate civic design course. Another married student with a family worked as a GPO telephonist several evenings a week.

Surely, sir, these assistants are in most cases "trying it on." I would add that neither of the cases I have given refer to myself: and I am certain similar instances could be quoted from all other schools whether "recognised"; part-time, or evening only.

PETER MATHIAS.

Nottingham.

Spoonfed Assistants ?

SIR,—The excuses put forward by "Another Architectural Assistant" (May 10) and other brother-moaners for failure to take the RIBA examination, prompt me to wonder if our modern spoon-fed social system is producing a generation totally lacking in initiative and independence.

To take the points of the letter in order:

1. Eleven post-war years, coupled with the RIBA concessions to ex-servicemen seem adequate time to qualify.

2. Financial assistance was allowed by government grant in all difficult circumstances, but in any case night-school fees at any university are very reasonable—and even correspondence courses allow payments by instalment.

3. Family ties have not prevented hundreds of present Associates from qualifying.

4. "Those of us in architecture who are quite capable of doing as well as some who are qualified" can best prove this—in the examination room.

I write as an Associate, qualified post-war at my own expense and as a father of three.

"A QUALIFIED ARCHITECT."

Architecture In a Vacuum

SIR,—Why does my critic (April 26) sign himself "Anon"? The Social Credit movement is not terroristic and our only weapon is debate. However, I thank him for bringing those two alarming words—euphemistically always "social credit" to *The Times* and *The Economist*—once more into print.

I did not say that no progress can be made "unless architects enter politics." We are all "in politics" whether we "enter them" or not, even when our attitude towards them is purely negative. Nor do I advocate one political "stink" to overpower another. All established political parties are now running a racket, ignoring realities and debating from false premises because they have no real autonomy; the power today does not reside at Westminster. Only Social Crediters are openly and honestly attacking that power and proposing a sensible remedy for our present social sickness.

Architecture is in the mud precisely because we lack Social Credit and all it implies—primarily freedom from *fraudulent debt*. As the letter which follows that of "Anon" rightly points out: "The majority of architects are producing buildings and not architecture." Money rules their every act and every moment of their lives so that they are unable to be what they could, and should, be—that is artists.

"Anon" is illogical in comparing Social Credit progress with architectural progress. And why should an idea be wrong merely because it has not yet achieved popular support? It is hard work to change the conditioned reflexes, emotional prejudices and false philosophies of the centuries. We could do with more help. However, Social Credit progress is steady and goes on in other places than the political arena itself—notably in psychiatry and philosophy. Already strong political movements exist in Australia, Canada and New Zealand, and here we do not stagnate. It is possible that New Zealand—so often in the forefront of reforms—may acquire a Social Credit government in 1957.

And here comes Automation. "It will *not* mean unemployment" is the desperate cry of the myoptic politicians. A clear example of Double Think. Welcome, we say, to Full Unemployment and the Age of Leisure. That could produce a lively culture in which architects could at last come into their own and begin to design with Full Enjoyment. But Subtopia will continue to inflate so long as we refuse to see that architecture is the expression of a whole culture—that it does not merely float in a vacuum. There may even be some close connection between South Bank's Vertical Failure and Saturday's horizontal trophy race at Silverstone.

ERIC DE MARE.

London.

An Idea Brewing

SIR,—As the architect to a brewery company I wonder whether or not a useful purpose could be served by forming a Society of Brewery Architects.

The problems arising today, in this branch of the profession are manifold, particularly increased costs of building. As many brewery companies now employ their own architects it is thought that if meetings could be held by these people useful discussions could take place, whereby many of these problems could possibly be satisfactorily overcome. The advantages of forming a Society of Brewery Architects are many.

If this letter could be published, the feelings of other architects so employed could be tested.

GEO. WM. ECCLES.

Lancs.

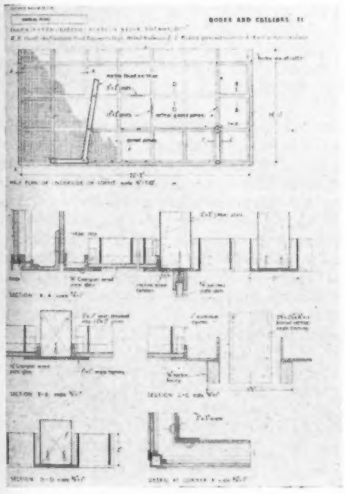
A Trinity Defended

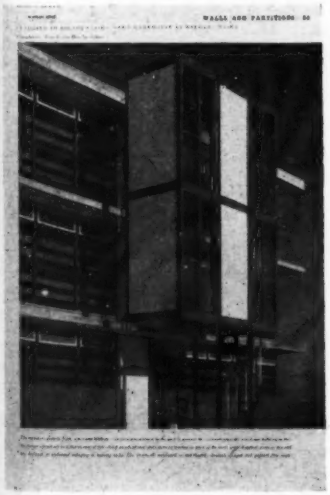
SIR,—Reyner Banham, whose noble head and eloquence I admired at a recent ICA meeting on the subject of brutalism which was distinguished by the absence of its prophets, possesses the art of giving facts an unpleasant twist that makes them groan.

(*Continued on page 670*)

WORK YOUR PASSAGE WITH WORKING DETAILS







an AJ holiday (abroad) with pay

(a) for students: a cash present plus payment-by-results

(b) for architects: payment (larger) by results only

From time to time readers point out that we never give Working Details of foreign buildings. The reason for this is simple: we cannot get sufficient information (or perhaps we should say sufficiently *reliable* information) from which to draft them. Foreign architects do not always give full information on their drawings, and they do not as a class take kindly to long letters from English editors asking (in a foreign language) for answers to a long list of technical enquiries. Therefore, if we want foreign details we must *send for them*. Our offer therefore is this:

To Students

We are prepared to make a limited number of awards, to an aggregate of £250, each separate award to be between £20 and £40, to students who wish to go abroad and who would be prepared to spend part of their time assembling information for Working Details (important note : they will *not* have to draw them). They will, however, have to produce a photograph, which may mean having one taken by, or producing one from, a professional photographer: amateur shots are rarely good enough for publication; drawings and a description. We will of course pay the cost of any photography whether the result is used or not, and we will pay a further six guineas for each detail which is ultimately published in the JOURNAL. Students who wish to take part in this scheme must write in to the Editors stating their itinerary, approximately what their journey will cost them, any buildings they propose to detail, together (if possible) with references to periodicals in which they have appeared; and must accompany their letter with a letter of recommendation either from the Principal of their school of architecture or from one of the Principals of their firm. Applications, which must reach this office not later than the first post on Monday, June 25, will be considered on the basis of the most promising buildings and itineraries. The Editors' decision will be final.

To Architects

Any architects who are going abroad this summer and who think that they may find themselves near some good buildings with time to spare are also invited to assemble Working Details material for us. They will not be paid for going there, but we will be glad to pay a fee of eight guineas for any detail published, plus, of course, any expenses they may have incurred in getting photographs, whether we publish or not. To guard against possible duplication of effort (which is not likely) or choosing buildings which we don't fancy (which is) they are asked to write in and tell us their plans before they go. The Editors reserve the right to refuse any material submitted.

What a Working Detail is

We like to think that our readers know all about this: but it is always possible that the work which lies behind a detail may have escaped them. For a Working Detail—photograph, drawing, caption—is the most exacting item in architectural journalism: it has to show not only the form of all the elements which compose it (including such things as screws, dowels, etc.) but must specify all materials and finishes, must describe methods of fabrication and the way the pieces were put together (if either of these are at all out of the ordinary); and must give the architect's reasons for detailing as he did. Unfortunately the habits of architects vary considerably in different parts of Europe. In Italy for instance the architect only shows the bounding lines on his working drawings: about materials and workmanship he is commonly mum. In all cases it will be necessary to check the architect's drawings against what was actually built, and in some cases it may be necessary to make a measured drawing on the spot. If the architect smiles and throws up his hands when asked for information it will be necessary to seek out the contractor . . .

With the enthusiasm that Corbusier's latest escapade into church architecture has aroused and with Hitchcock's "evaluation" (a word that is not getting much rest nowadays) of Antonio Gaudi I have been wondering when Mendelsohn's transcendental period would find renewed appreciation on these shores. Now Mr. Banham with his remarkable instinct for following a scent has responded in his review of Arnold Whittick's Eric Mendelsohn and we all applaud and wait for someone to say in the AA Members' Room "who is that chap Mendelsohn?"; just as somebody else six years ago asked the same question about a German architect with a curious Dutch name.

So there; but why is Mr. Banham so naughty about facts? Before Gropius "was building log huts and talking handicrafts" he had built in 1912 a factory, and I need not say where and how; and there is no need to over-state the timber house built for Mr. Sommerfeld, a somewhat strong-minded client. And for that house in La Chaux-de-Fonds which he had built as an adolescent, Le Corbusier found some nostalgic words in the introduction to the first volume of Oeuvre Complete, yes, Mr. Banham, and he had not forgotten the staircase to the house in Vaucresson when he went to the six days cycle race, but on leaving that place decided to turn the staircase 90 degs., voilà! And all as told by himself in his anecdotes.

Nor is it fitful to accuse the third member of the holy trinity of having produced a thing at the time when the Mendelsohn factory in Luckenwalde went up; surely Mr. Banham knows the earlier Mies buildings, yes? As one of the many who overturned on a Breuer chair in 1927 (of the straight-backed kind) I would never have thought that Mr. Breuer was *the singular productive force* at the Bauhaus. Oh, Reyner Banham, do remember the house at the Horn, the törten houses, the light fittings of Marianne Brandt and all the other things. That steel chair, incidentally, was perfectly useless before Mies gave it a shape that went round the world.

However, art critics must perpetually be on the search for new themes; and while I suspect that coming from Ronchamp's béton brut Mr. Banham may have been fascinated by the "virility" (a good word) of the brick-built Einstein tower, there are Rudolf Steiner's anthroposophical buildings at Dornach, worthy relations of the work of the early Mendelsohn and the recent Corbusier. Naturally I have no wish to suggest a theme for critical exploration and particularly a theme that is essentially brut; but I am overwhelmed by a review which proves how quickly facts assume a deathly pallor.

And there are people that believe that critics and art-historians are no euphemists!

WALTER SEGAL.

London.

Reyner Banham replies: It was both gratifying and surprising to see Walter Segal, who must know that he has a reputation for being a mocker of the grey eminences of the modern movement, rallying to their defence for once in a while, but I feel that he misconstrues me in so doing.

Gropius has done great things and was going to do more, but Mr. Segal will surely agree with me that the years 1919-24 were a curiously dim period for him as far as built architecture is concerned. Similarly with Mies, and as for Corb at Vaucresson—has Mr. Segal ever looked at the rear elevation of that house and not felt that the staircase leaning inappropriately against the side of a symmetrical elevation is the most patent afterthought in modern architecture?

Nostalgic words about Chaux de Fonds, certainly, but it is neither described nor illustrated in the *Oeuvre Complète*, in spite of its architectural virtues and manifest technical interest. (Mr. Segal may have noticed that Prof. Giedion has lately practised a similar suppression on Gropius's log-cabin phase.)

The facts remain that for Mies, Grope and Corb the years 1919-24 were a period of confusion and false starts, while for Mendelsohn they were years of achievement. As for the Breuer situation—who designed the furniture for the Haus am Horn? and has Mr. Segal tried counting the illustrations of student-work, etc., in the Big Bauhaus Book published by the Museum of Modern Art, to see how large a proportion are Breuer's work?

Two further points touching my *amour-propre* as an art-historian. I made a point of footnoting my Mendelsohn article of 1954 so that mockers like Mr. Segal should not think I was climbing on the bandwaggon at the present late date—I would not have accepted Whittick's second edition for review had I not been working on Mendelsohn, off and on, for about five years now.

And I must thank Mr. Segal for complimenting me on my *bella figura:* to cultivate a noble head is the art-historian's first task; the competition, with people like Professor Blunt and Professor Hitchcock around, is killing, and Mr. Segal has flattered me with the first good notice mine has had.

Glue

SIR,—The comments of the contributors to your Technical Section on "Design and Practice of Joinery" (AJ May 17) are of special interest to us, as makers of synthetic resin adhesives suitable, among other purposes, for bonding laminated plastics to wood. The following is the passage to which we refer:—

"A joinery firm might obtain the veneer and stick it to the core in his shop, but there is some danger in this since he may not be expert in choosing the correct glues and he may not have the appropriate presses which are desirable. It is true that the material is widely sold for amateur application, but usually for simple table tops and with a special "impact" glue which, whilst it does not require pressure is nevertheless a less efficient bond. It is preferable therefore to see that ready-veneered boards are obtained from specialists, even if cutting and fitting is subsequently done by the joiner."

The inference in this passage is that "impact" glues, glues admittedly incapable of providing the most efficient bonds, are nevertheless the only adhesives that do not require pressure and that for this reason a joinery firm is best advised to buy ready-veneered boards from an organisation specialising in such products. There is certainly much to commend the use of ready-veneered panels but we hope you may be kind enough to allow us space to correct the impression that "impact" glues are alone in not requiring appreciable pressure during setting. For gluing decorative laminated plastics to wood, we ourselves offer a synthetic resin adhesive for use in conjunction with a specially formulated hardener to make joints of far greater strength, durability and water resistance than those obtainable with "impact" glues. This combination of resin and hardener does not require the use of a press; no pressure is needed beyond the amount necessary to keep the surfaces firmly in contact during setting of the adhesive, and this is often obtainable by such simple expedients as placing a few saucepans of water at suitable points on the upper surface. It may be of interest to add that this synthetic resin adhesive is sold not only to joiners, fabricators, furniture makers and other "professional" users, but also in conveniently sized packs, through ironmongers and builders' merchants, to the general public.

We hope that your contributors will accept this minor correction, which in no way detracts from the merit of a most interesting section of your Journal.

K. S. MEAKIN.

Cambridge.

The New Journal

SIR,—While we would like to join the chorus of applause for the new form of the JOURNAL, we will not repeat the detailed congratulations which you will have received from other correspondents.

We also welcome the new enquiry form service, and would like to suggest that this is a golden opportunity, when passing readers' enquiries on to the manufacturer, to use the occasion to draw their attention to the suggestions of the BS 1311/1955, particularly as this has been recommended by the RIBA recently.

It might be pointed out to them that the literature requested should not only conform with the BS as to size, but should also give, as conveniently full information on the product as is possible.

Far too few manufacturers in our experience are aware of the importance, or even the existence of this British Standard.

Publicity agents are also grossly ill-informed on this subject, and we have experience of instances where definite resistance to this approach has been met from the agent. This is probably because a request to an agent to produce literature in the spirit of the BS means a reversal of his present selling techniques (*i.e.*, selling soap to housewives), and may even constitute an embarrassment to him as he very often will require specialist staff to deal with this sort of work.

If advantage is taken of this new enquiry service, the whole industry could look forward to a general improvement in the standard of literature destined for filing.

Might we also pass on a comment from the Publicity Director of a well-known manufacturing company "That the architectural world does not exactly practice what it preaches . . . the AJ measures in length $11\frac{1}{16}$ in. whereas BS 1131 states not more than 11 × $8\frac{1}{4}$ in. Also the binder for information sheets is $12\frac{3}{4}$ in. by a fraction under 9 in. for sheets which, when removed from the AJ, are only $8\frac{1}{4}$ in. wide."

JOHN BRUNTON.

London.

SIR,—Re new JOURNAL format and alphabetical enquiry form. Splendid.

K. H. VICKERS.

Kent.

DIARY

Streets in the Air. Talk by Myles Dove on Corbusier's "L'Unité d'Habitation." BBC Home Service, 4.15 p.m.

JUNE 8

Organic and Rational. Talk by Joseph Rykwert in the "Prospect" series. BBC Third Programme, 7.35 p.m.

JUNE 11

Keep it clean. Gas Council film at the BC, 26, Store Street, W.C.1, 12.45 p.m.

JUNE 13

A Journey through Subtopia. Talk by Sir Hugh Casson, On the BBC Home Service, 7.30 p.m.

JUNE 13

Modern Church Design. Talk by Professor Basil Spence. At the RIBA, 66, Portland Place, W.1, 6 p.m.

JUNE 19



BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Architects and Engineers

The following achitects, engineers, surveyors, scientists and others connected with the building industry have received awards in the Birthday Honours List:

Knights Bachelor: F. J. Osborn, chairman, executive committee, TCPA; A. S. Quartermaine, past president, ICE.

KCB: E. F. Muir, Permanent Secretary, MOW.

CB: A. E. M. Davies, Under-Secretary, MOE.

CBE: P. L. Leigh-Breese, for services to housing; F. C. Brown, chief housing and planning inspector, MOHLG; H. Conolly, county architect, Essex; W. J. Gilmore, Asst. Sec., MOW; R. Y. Goodden, Prof. of Design, Dept. of Silversmithing, RCA; C. E. C. Hussey, for services to architecture; R. Kean, director of Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors; T. H. H. Turner, lately chairman, Cwmbran Development Corporation.

KCVO: Professor A. F. Blunt.

ISO: A. Jolly, asst. sec., MOW; P. S. M. Smith, chief executive officer, MOHLG.

OBE (Prime Minister's List): P. H. E. Bagenal, architect, for services in field of acoustics; Capt. M. R. Bouquet, chairman, housing committee, Amersham RDC; W. J. Brown, principal regional architect, SW region, MOHLG; R. Charlesworth, chairman, Reeves Charlesworth Ltd., building contractor, Sheffield; A. W. Davson, senior partner, Davson & Pritchard, chartered quantity surveyors; G. C. A. Greetham, chief structural engineer, MOW; J. A. Hinks, chartered surveyor to Churches Main Committee; G. Ledward, sculptor, for services to the Royal Mint; T. H. Longstaff, county surveyor and planning officer, Huntingdonshire; J. C. Pritchard, director and secretary, FDC; I. I. Ungar, deputy director of housing, LCC.

MBE: A. Gibbons, higher executive officer, BRS; C. T. Read, borough engineer and surveyor, Maidenhead; Miss Mary Tabor, housing manager, Stevenage Development Corporation; E. H. Williams, principal scientific officer, MOW.

AA

New Council

The Council of The Architectural Association for the session June 1 to May 31, 1957, is as follows:—

President: Gontran Goulden, A.R.I.B.A. *Vice-presidents:* John Brandon-Jones, A.R.I.B.A., D. Clarke Hall, F.R.I.B.A. *Hon. secretary:* H. T. Cadbury-Brown, F.R.I.B.A. *Hon. treasurer:* Edward Playne, F.R.I.B.A. *Editor:* J. M. Austin-Smith, A.R.I.B.A. *Hon. librarian:* Oliver J. Cox, A.R.I.B.A. *Ordinary Members of the Council:* Neville Conder, A.R.I.B.A., Anthony W. Cox, A.R.I.B.A., L. De Syllas, A.R.I.B.A., J. Eastwick-Field, A.R.I.B.A., G. Epstein, A.A.DIPL. (HONS.), W. G. Howell, A.R.I.B.A., John Lacey, F.R.I.B.A., Edward Mills, F.R.I.B.A., Peter Newnham, A.R.I.B.A. Michael Ventris, A.R.I.B.A., Bryan Westwood, F.R.I.B.A.

RICS

Cost Research

The RICS has announced its intention to form a Cost Research Panel. The terms of reference will be: "To keep under review the sources of cost information available to the building industry. To examine cost relationships for design alternatives and to draw conclusions therefrom. To consider the factors which cause the cost of similar items of building work to vary, including the effect of standardization and repetition in design."

The panel will probably consist of three quantity surveyors, one building surveyor, representatives of BRS and other organizations. It will receive financial backing from the Institution in order that grants may be made to those providing or carrying out research into building costs. The Editors comment on this proposal on page 625.

NFBTE

Advisory Service to Builders

In 1954 the NFBTE took advantage of an offer of American Conditional Act money to establish an advisory service to builders on questions of programming, costing, incentive schemes and site organization. The service has been open to enquirers since autumn of last year and the press were recently invited by A. W. Grosvenor (chairman of the committee of management) to discuss its progress so far.

Questions elicited the following rather meagre facts: The service has a staff of five; they have been consulted by about 50 builders and have made some 30 investigations (with reports and recommendations). They charge about £15 (including travelling and subsistence) per day spent on an assignment. Most enquiries are for help with contract planning and costing systems, and one of the customers of the service is K. C. F. Foster, president of the LMBA.

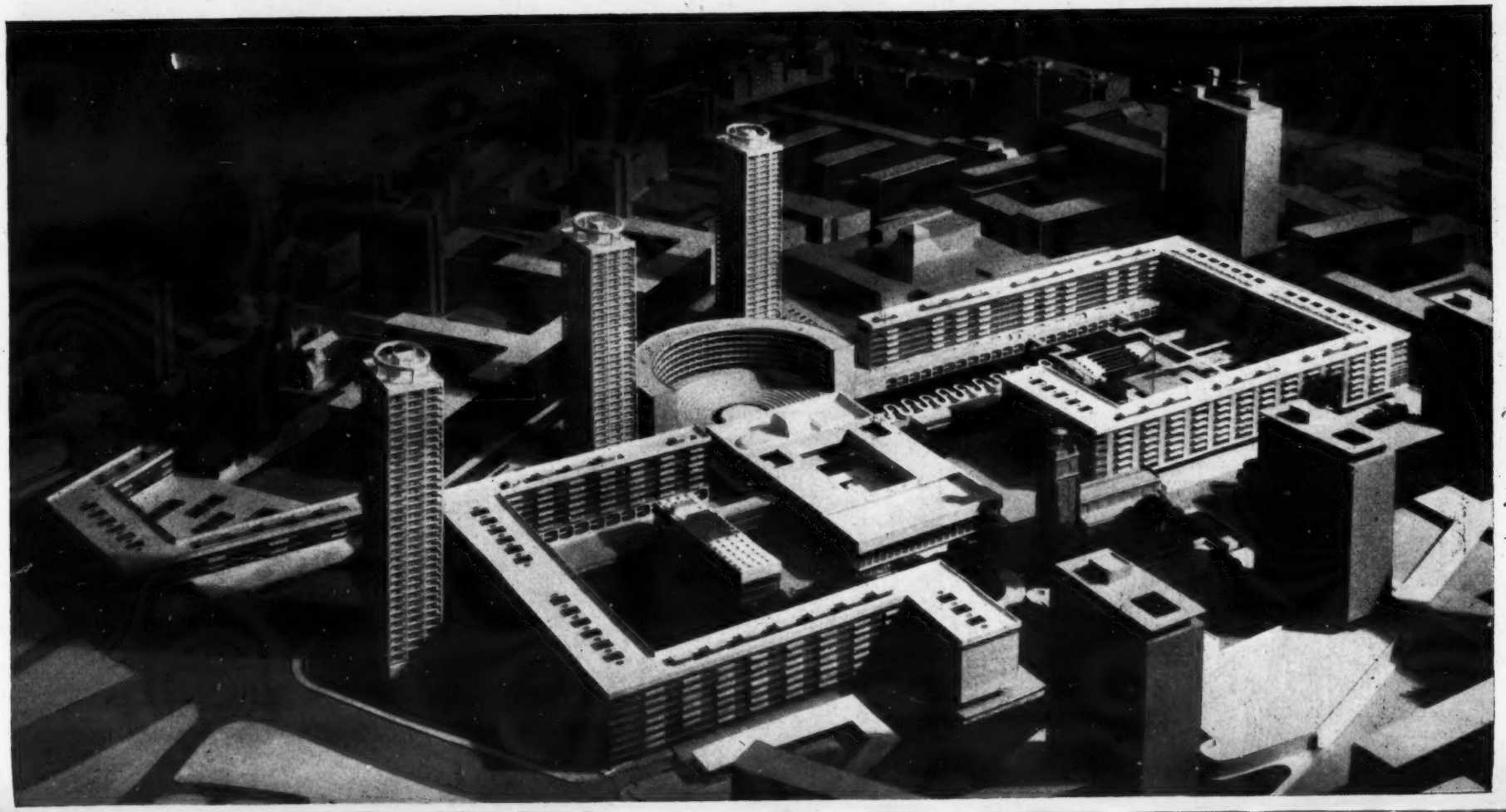
Below are two views of Market House on the north side of the recently opened Market Square at Harlow New Town. This four-storey block, which contains five shops and approximately 17,100 sq. ft. of office space, was designed by Frederick Gibberd, architect-planner to the Corporation, Victor Hammett, executive architect, and Harold Tiktin, architect-in-charge.



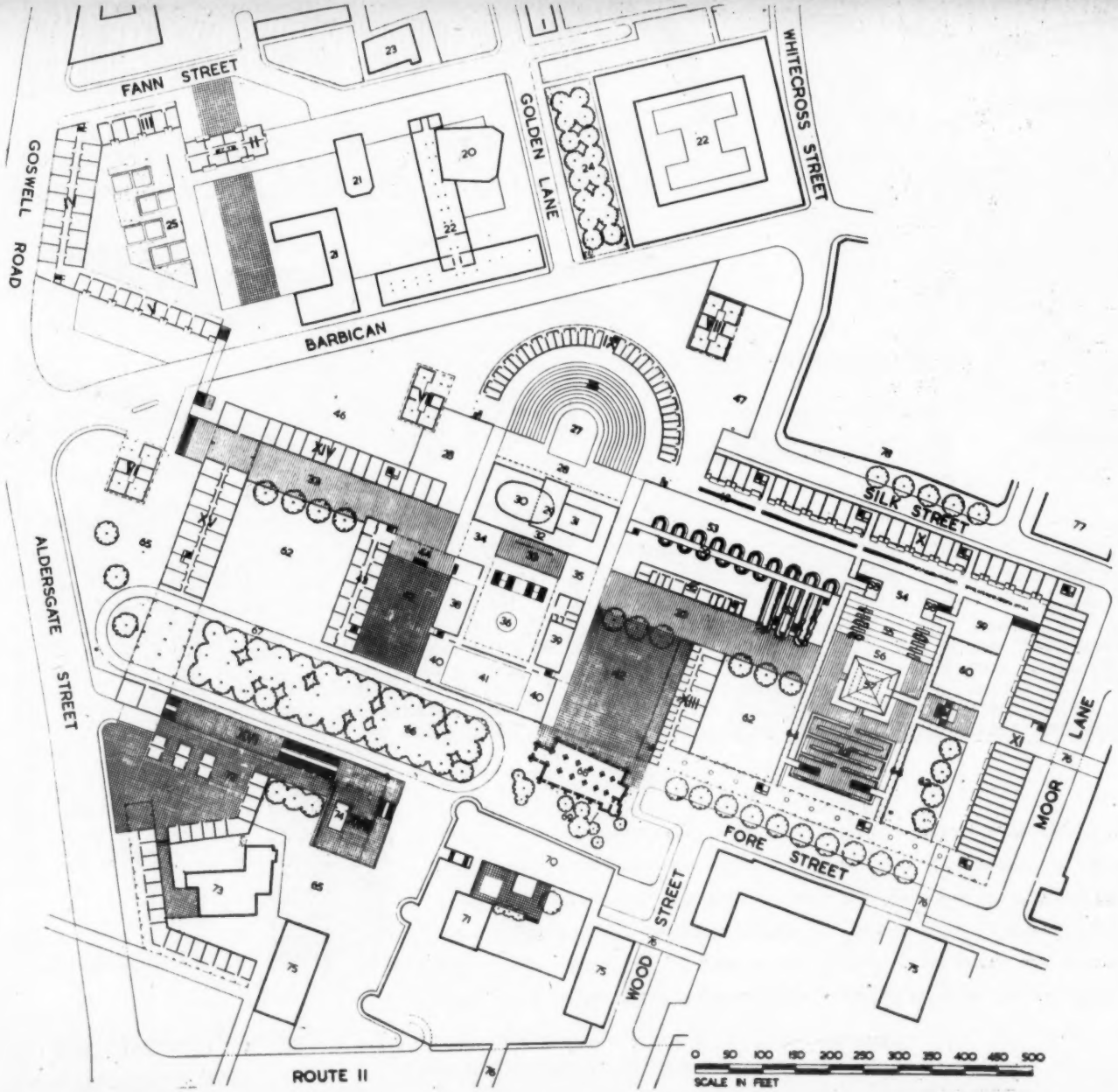


HIGH DENSITY HOUSING FOR THE BARBICAN AREA OF THE CITY OF LONDON

The protagonists of high-density living in city centres will receive some comfort from the proposals put forward by Messrs. Chamberlin, Powell and Bon, at the requests of the City of London Corporation, for the residential development of part of the Barbican area. (For the joint LCC and City proposals for this area, see the JOURNAL *for March 8 and 15, page 256; and for April 12, page 354.) The view from the west, below, shows the general disposition of buildings (light in colour) amongst the office blocks laid out by the joint LCC-City planners. It is proposed to house between 6000 to 7000 people in 2355 flats in an area of about 30 acres, with, in addition, new buildings for the City of London School, the City of London School for Girls, the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, 1840 garages, a restaurant, three public houses, a concert hall and theatre (each seating 700), an art gallery, a conservatory and various playgrounds, walks, and ornamental water. The density is reckoned to be 300 people to the acre. The photographs below and on page 636, together with the plan, show how the buildings form a series of*







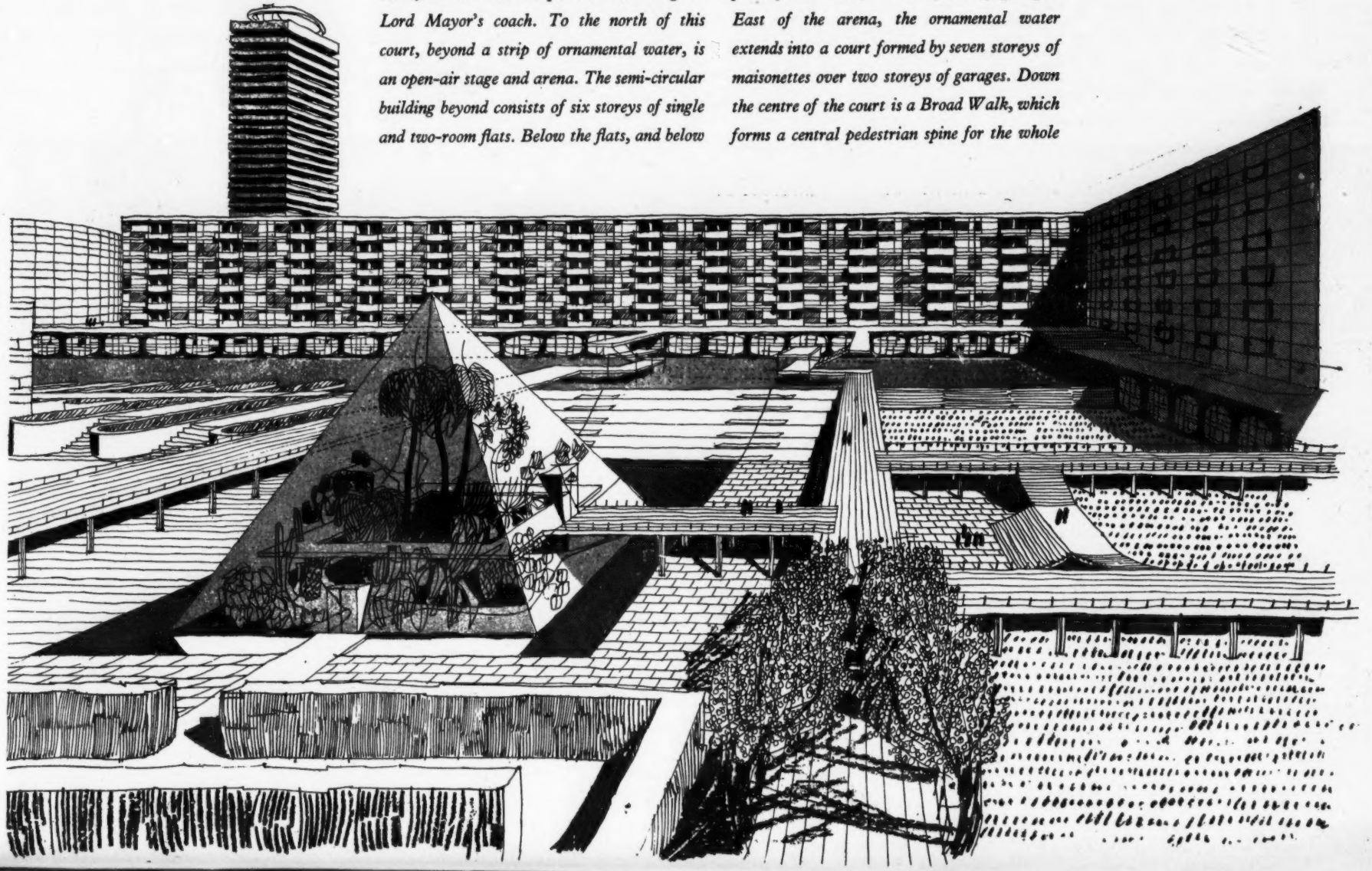
I 16 storeys of flats
II 16 storeys of flats
III 3 storeys of flats above shops and garages
IV 3 storeys of flats above shops and garages
V 3 storeys of flats above shops and garages
VI 31 storeys of flats rising from the sunken moat
VII 29 storeys of flats above 2 storeys of garages
VIII 29 storeys of flats above 2 storeys of garages
IX 6 storeys of flats above 2 storeys of garages
X 6 storeys of flats and maisonettes above 2 storeys of garages
XI 7 storeys of maisonettes above 2 storeys of garages
XII 7 storeys of flats and maisonettes, open at ground level
XIII 8 storeys of flats and maisonettes
XIV 8 storeys of flats and maisonettes
XV 9 storeys of flats and maisonettes
XVI 7 storeys of flats and maisonettes, open at ground level
XVII 7 storeys of flats and maisonettes, open at ground level
18 shops
19 garages and open parking
20 Cripplegate Institute
21 existing office buildings
22 new office buildings
23 Methodist Chapel
24 public open space
25 private open space
26 amphitheatre
27 open-air stage
28 ornamental water
29 stage and workshops
30 theatre
31 concert hall
32 art gallery
33 Broad Walk
34 west portico
35 east portico
36 quadrangle containing pavilion for Lord Mayor's coach
37 cloister
38 Hall of the City of London School
39 Hall of the City of London School for Girls
40 gymnasium
41 swimming bath
42 paved forecourt
43 City of London School; teaching block
44 City of London School; administrative block
45 Guildhall School of Music and Drama; music practice block
46 podium over garages
47 beer garden
48 terrace with parterre at level 70.00 above 2-room flats
49 terrace with parterre at level 60.00 above 2-room flats
50 terrace at level 51.00
51 walkway at level 56.00
52 formal planting
53 canal
54 fountain
55 cascades flanked by planting and stepped terraces
56 basin
57 conservatory
58 pavilion over the canal
59 sculpture
60 flower garden
61 stairs up to terrace and walkways at level 60.00
62 lawn
63 evergreen labyrinth
64 loggias with walkways above connecting the raised terraces
65 sunken grass-covered moat
66 boscage of trees
67 running track
68 St. Giles Church
69 St. Giles Churchyard
70 London Wall Restaurant
71 Barber Surgeons Hall
72 shopping centre
73 Ironmongers Hall
74 cafe
75 18 storey office block
76 foot-bridge over road
77 City greenyard
78 Whitbread's brewery

inter-connecting courts, with vertical emphasis provided by three 30-storey residential tower-blocks running approximately parallel with the four towers of offices which are proposed for the north side of Route 11. In the centre are the schools, with the theatre, concert hall and art gallery, forming the four sides of a

Left: layout of proposed development

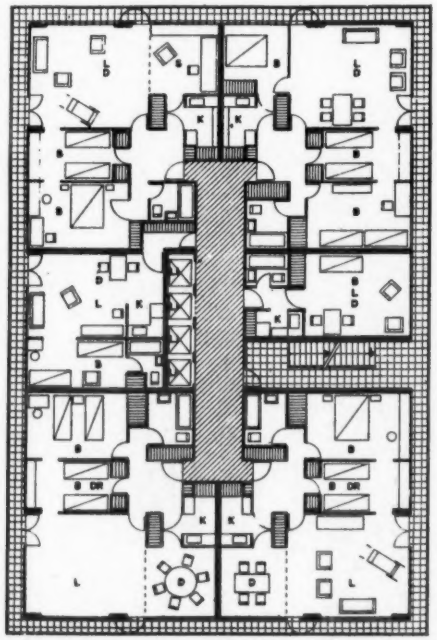
HIGH DENSITY HOUSING FOR THE BARBICAN continued

court, in which will be a pavilion containing the Lord Mayor's coach. To the north of this court, beyond a strip of ornamental water, is an open-air stage and arena. The semi-circular building beyond consists of six storeys of single and two-room flats. Below the flats, and below part of the arena, are two floors of garages. East of the arena, the ornamental water extends into a court formed by seven storeys of maisonettes over two storeys of garages. Down the centre of the court is a Broad Walk, which forms a central pedestrian spine for the whole

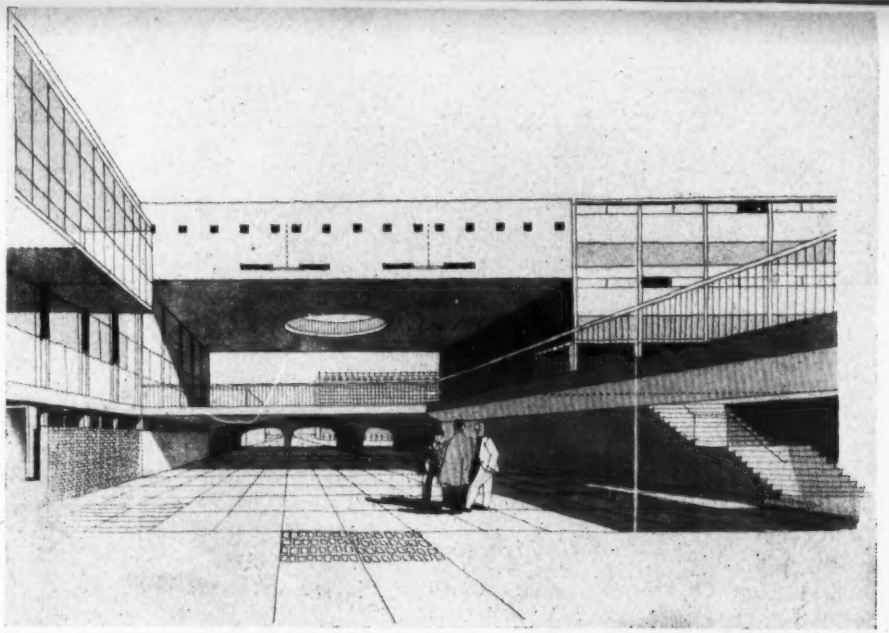


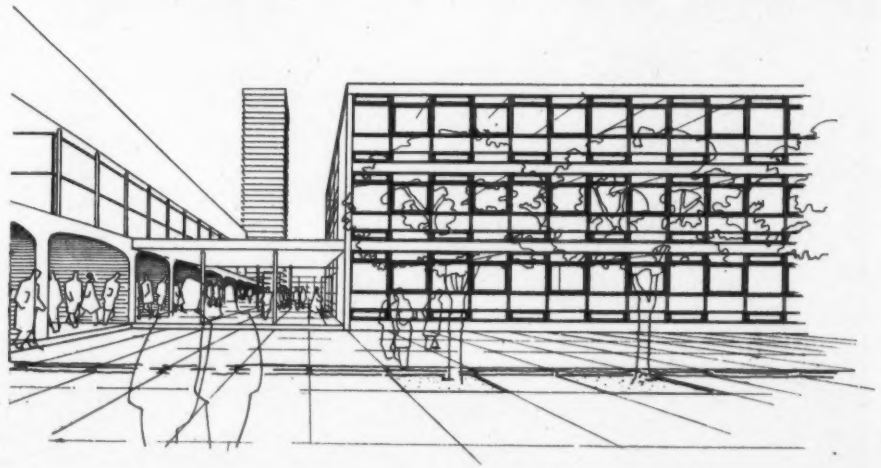
scheme. A cross-axis has been formed at the on the right, which shows the Broad Walk, with

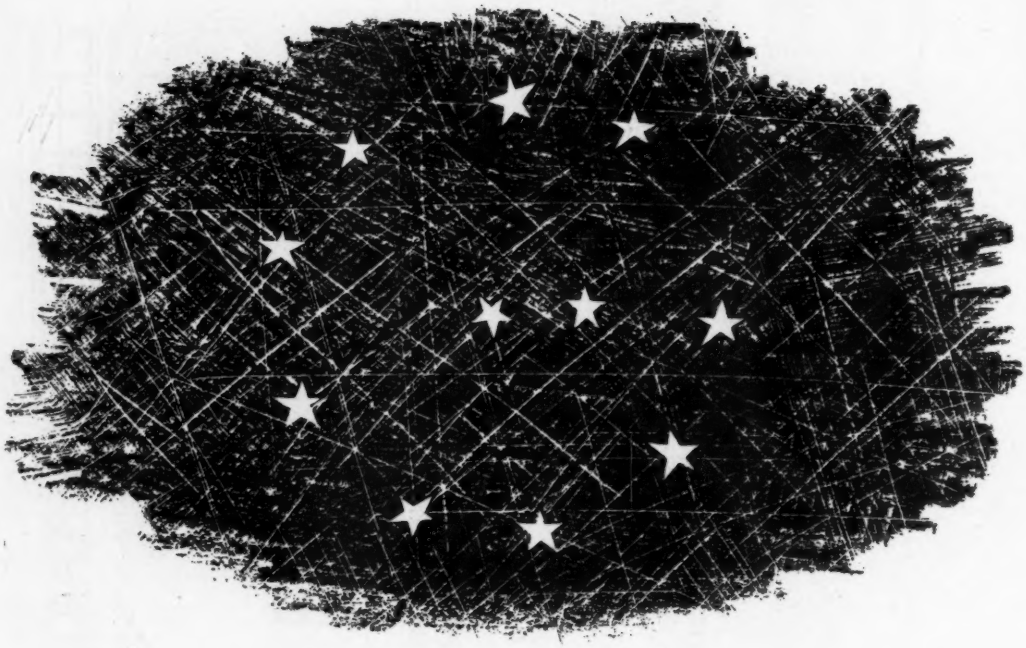
scheme. A cross-axis has been formed at the east end of this walk, consisting of an ever green labyrinth, a glass pyramid-shaped conservatory, and a fountain and cascade descending from the canal to form a pool round the conservatory. This arrangement is shown in detail in the sketch by Gordon Cullen on the opposite page. Flanking the east and west sides of the central quadrangle are paved areas on to which face classrooms, school halls, and, on the east, an eight-storey block of maisonettes and flats, just discernible in the background of the sketch, on the right, which shows the Broad Walk, with the concert hall on the left and the girls' school on the right. To the south of the quadrangle is the Church of St. Giles, its churchyard and a running track. Enclosing the latter is another court consisting of a continuous line of seven, eight and nine-storeys of maisonettes and flats. Above the Barbican, to the north, is a further area of offices and flats the latter being an extension of the Golden Lane housing scheme on which these architects are already engaged. The existing roads between Fore Street and Barbican have been closed and the whole area has become a pedestrian precinct, with its own restaurant (by the preserved remains of London Wall), shops and open space. The main pedestrian way is the Broad Walk, seen below right, with the Guildhall School of Music and Drama on the right, the concert hall on the left, and one of the 30-storey flat blocks in the rear. Just to the north of the Broad Walk is the line of the underground railway, which has been roofed over. One of the reasons for the grouping and placing of the schools was to ensure that facilities such as gymnasium, library and swimming bath could be shared and, in the case of the running track, concert hall and theatre, not only by the pupils of the different schools, but by the residents as well, provided this could be arranged without detriment to the schools. The planning of the various buildings is in line with current practice. Classrooms are double banked down a central corridor, flats are off access balconies, or in the case of tower blocks, central corridors with an off-shoot, unglazed, containing an escape stair (see plan on the left). Each floor of the tall blocks is surrounded by a continuous balcony. Kitchens and bathrooms are largely



Typical floor plan, tower block







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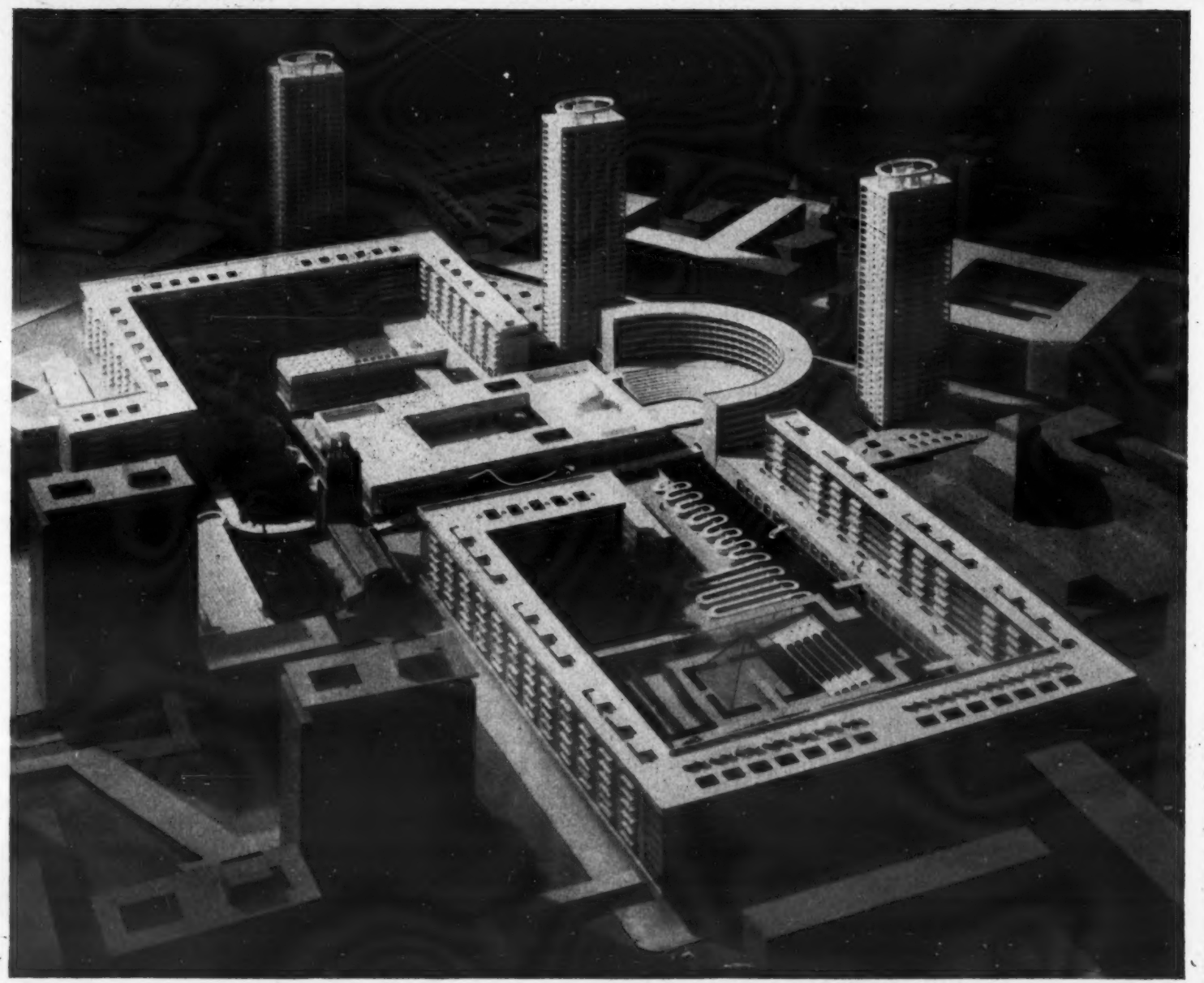
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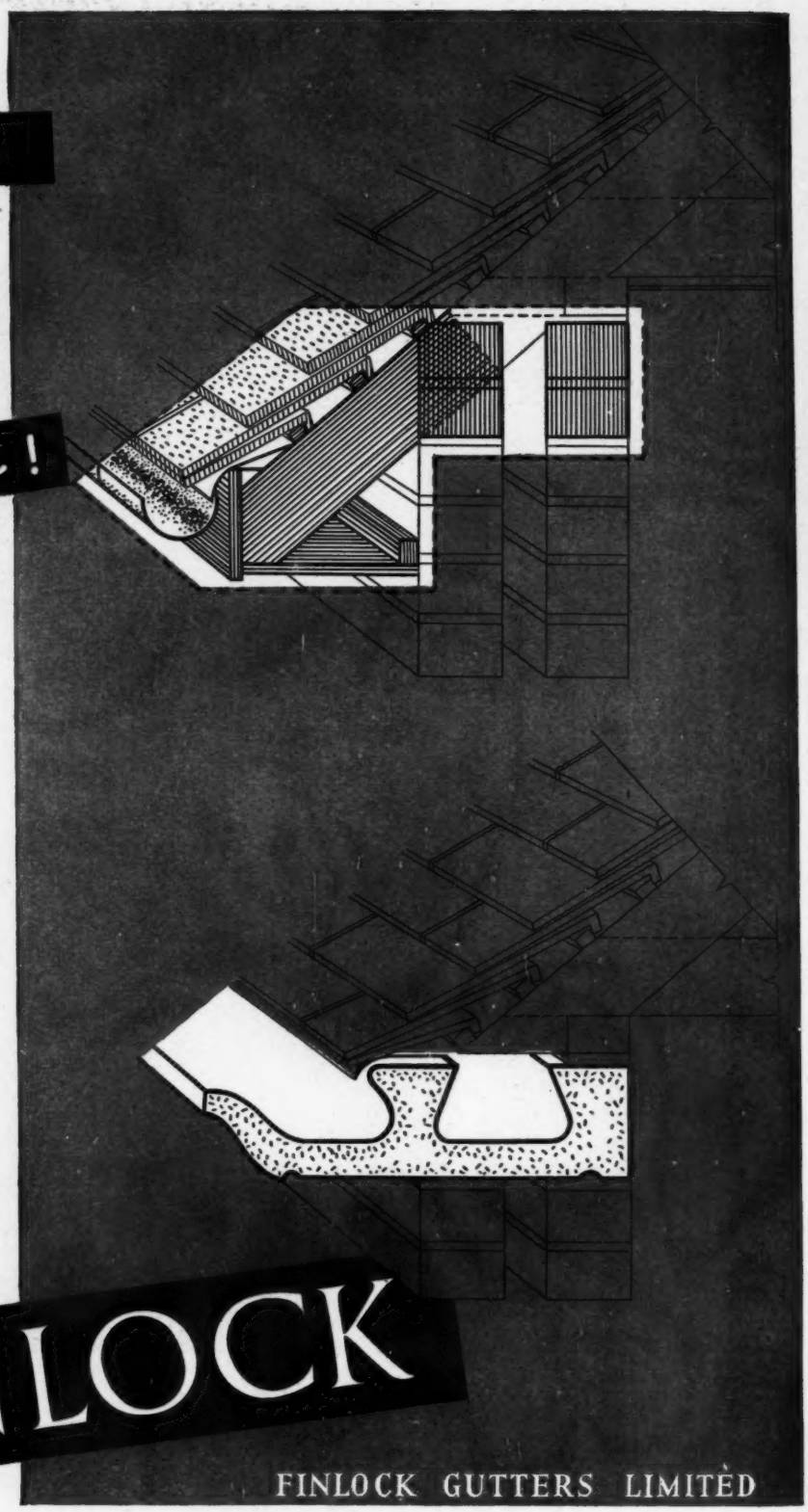
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placed internally. The flats are designed to be centrally heated, and to be let at economic rents varying from £165 to £185 p.a. for the bed-sitting room type, to £350 to £460 p.a. for the four-bedroom type, exclusive of rates. The whole project is estimated to cost about £10,466,000, and to take about seven years to build. The view on the right shows the layout from the south-east. One of the few existing buildings which remain is Whitbread's brewery, the building with the pyramidal roof in the middle distance on the right.



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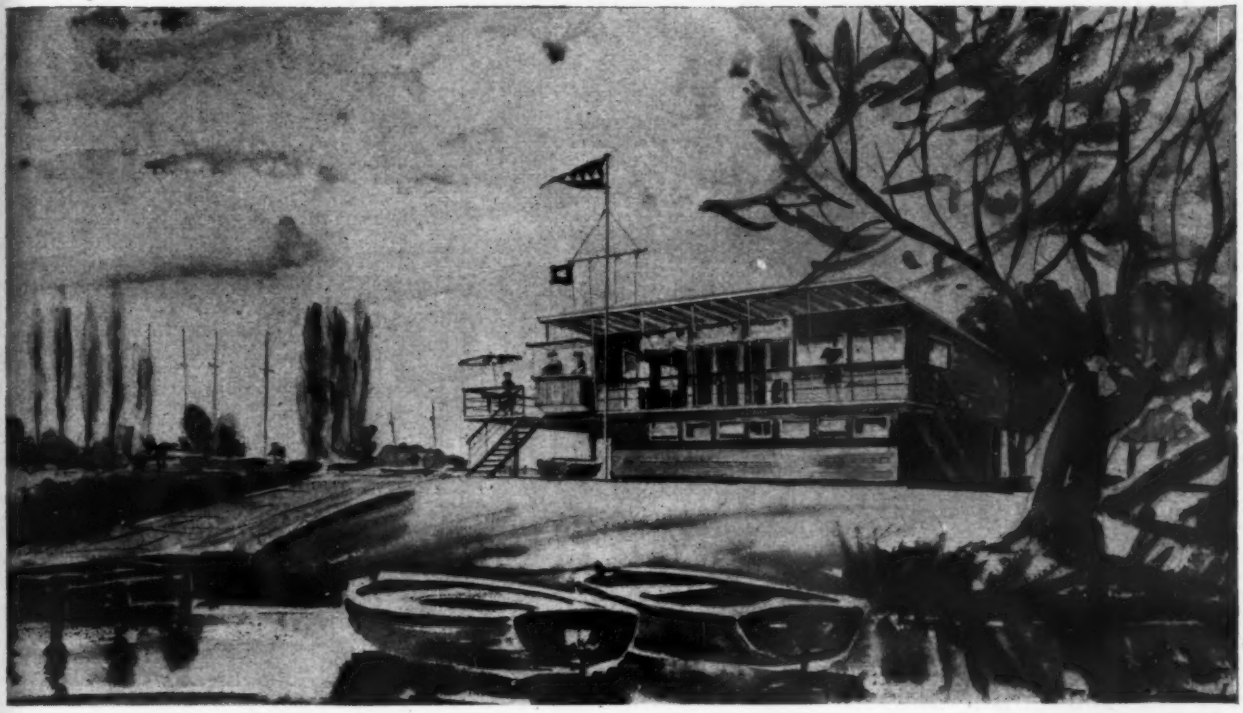
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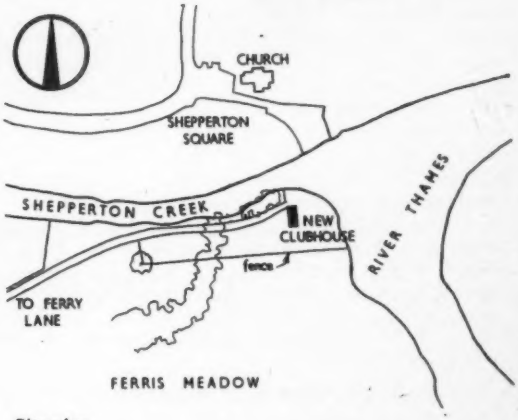
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BUILDINGS IN THE NEWS

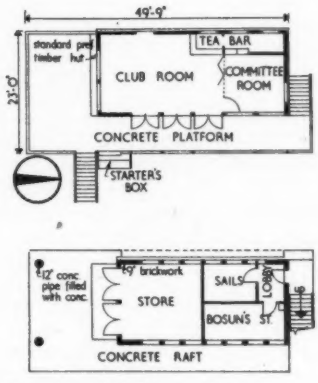


Desborough Sailing Club

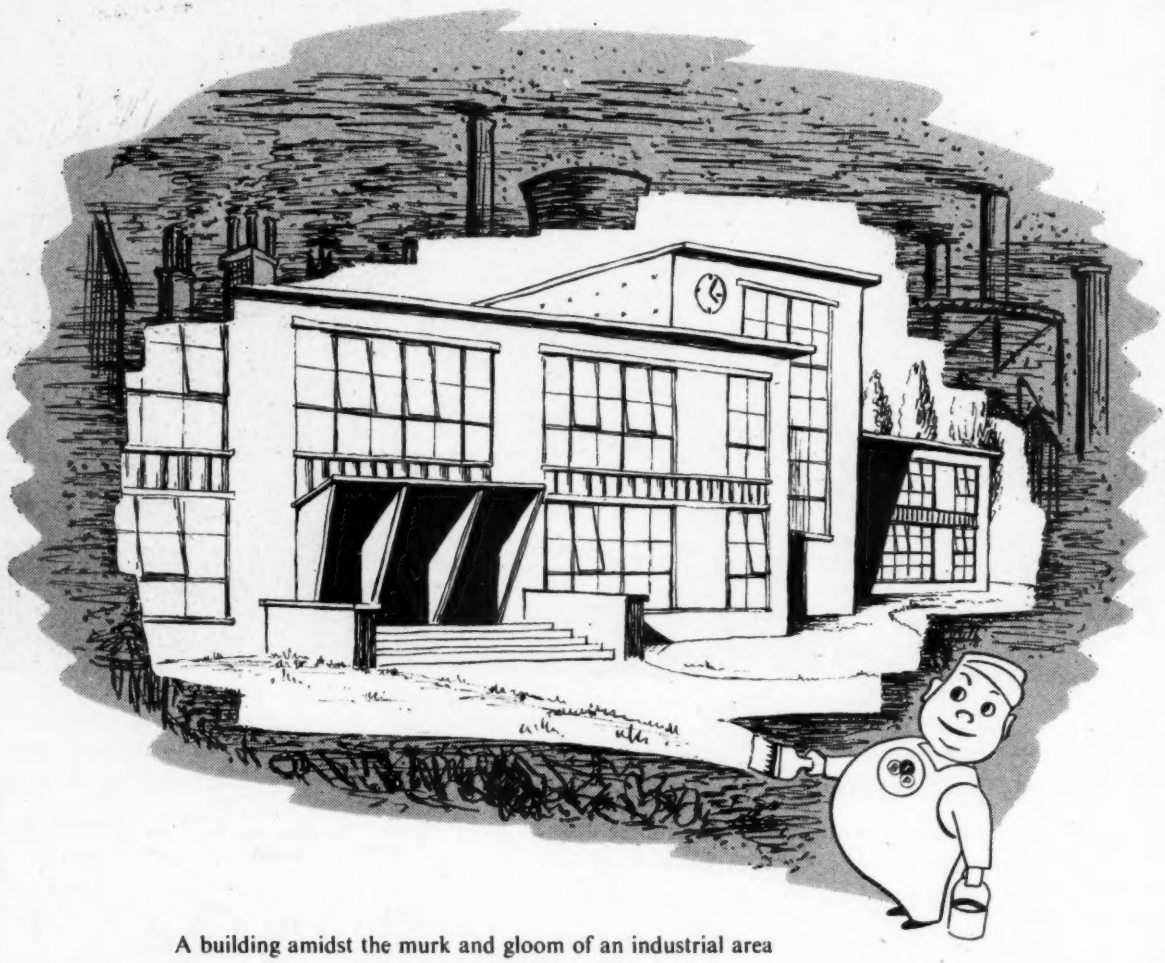
The proposed clubhouse for the Desborough Sailing Club on the Thames near D'Oyly Carte Island, Shepperton, has been designed by Bryan Westwood o Westwood, Sons and Harrison. The architect is commodore of the sailing club, and the sports section of the builders' organisation, Unit Construction Ltd., are members. The scheme was worked out from the start in close collaboration with the builders. The client's main requirements were a raised platform from which most of the sailing course could be seen, a clubroom and committee room which could be used as one room when required and space for storage and for changing. The site is a very pleasant one, with a number of existing trees and is not normally liable to flooding. Storage space will be underneath the main platform in a brick structure with a pitchmastic covering over the site concrete and carried 9 in. up the walls. There are also 9-in. thresholds to doors, which is considered sufficient to prevent flood damage. Two 12-in. concrete pipes will form the columns supporting the projecting end of the main platform, which will be built up of standard precast concrete beams at 2 ft. centres with 2-in. reinforced paving slabs spanning across them. The single-pitch roof will be extended to form a verandah on the east side, seen in the sketch above. The estimated nett cost is £1,400 for construction and £600 for site work, finishes and services. The floor area will be 2,300 sq. ft.



Site plan



Ground and first floor plans
[Scale: $\frac{1}{8}$" = 1' 0"]



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FILE THIS WEEK

technical section

THE INDUSTRY

From the industry this week Brian Grant reports on a machine mount, a range of magnetic door catches, a folder on Nigerian timber, hardboard flooring, a book of painting specifications, glazing tape, and portable staging.

MOUNTINGS FOR FACTORY MACHINES

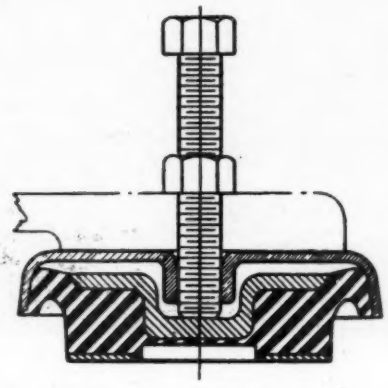
The section on the right shows an American designed machine mount which is now being made in this country. The mounting is placed under the foot of the machine and normal holding down bolts act merely as levelling devices. The rubber in the mounting absorbs a large proportion of the vibration and floors do not have to be drilled or bolt holes grouted in, nor is there any difficulty with reinforcing rods, pipe runs or cables bedded in the floor. The mountings are not, of course, suitable for heavy machinery but are available with load bearing capacities up to 14,000 lb., though the permissible weight varies considerably with the type of machine. (*Cementation (Muffelite) Ltd., 39, Victoria Street, London S.W.*1.)

MAGNETIC DOOR LATCHES

The Longton range of magnetic door latches is now produced in three sizes, the Major for full size interior doors, the Minor for the doors of wardrobes and medium sized cabinets and the Midget for the smaller doors of such things as sideboards or medicine cabinets. Magnets which retain their properties almost indefinitely are used and they are mounted in aluminium casings which can, if necessary, be anodised, while the striker plates are cadmium-plated to prevent rusting. The two larger types cost 8s. and 4s. each, but the price of the Midget has not yet been fixed. (*Aluminium Fabrications Ltd., Highlands Road, Shirley, Birmingham.*)

NIGERIAN TIMBERS

The Trade Commissioner for Nigeria has now issued a folder containing colour plates of 22 different types of Nigerian timber. The colour plates and other information are reproduced from the journal *Wood* and most of the examples are shown full size. Each illustration is amplified by notes which provide information on suitable uses, methods of working and the type of seasoning required. (*The Nigeria Office, 41, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.*1)



A new surface machine mounting.

INTERIM REPORT ON A HARDBOARD FLOOR

In March, 1954, this column contained a brief note on the use of hardboard for flooring, in which I mentioned that I had used some sheets of Royal hardboard for the floor of the hall of my own house and that, over a short period, it had stood up remarkably well. This note produced a somewhat disapproving letter from Mr. A. D. C. Smith, the Chairman of the Hardwood Flooring Manufacturers' Association, who suggested that I was "somewhat naif" and that "a report on its condition in five or ten years would be of greater interest to everyone." I now have to report that after two-and-a-half years, the hardboard is standing up surprisingly well and that the shiny surface has only dulled a little immediately inside the front door where the traffic is concentrated on a strip about 18 in. wide. I agree with Mr. Smith that hardwood block would certainly last longer and I would very much prefer it, if I could afford it and if I also had the energy to level off an existing, rather wavy, softwood floor. For a cheap and reasonably presentable surface, however, hardboard still seems to me a fairly sensible idea and I will do my best to produce the five and ten year comments that Mr. Smith requests.

PAINTING SPECIFICATIONS

A useful and very practical book of painting specifications has recently been issued by Joseph Mason & Co. It deals very thoroughly with the painting of surfaces such as plaster, brick, stone, metal wallboard and wood, and each section contains a chart giving advice on all stages of pretreatment and painting. There is also a useful section on the treatment of surfaces which have previously had some other finish; the book also contains draft specifications and specimen Bills of Quantities and it is interesting to note that the manufacturers have thought it worth while to ask a firm of architects, Messrs. Samuel Morrison & Partners, to collaborate with them in its production. Would that all firms were equally sensible. (*Joseph Mason & Co. Ltd., Nottingham Road, Derby.*)

WATERPROOF TAPE FOR GLAZING

Messrs. Winn & Coales, who have for many years been producing Denso tape for the covering of pipework in corrosive atmospheres, are now making two new products known as Sylglas glazing and sealing tape and Sylglas cord. One of the main uses for the tape is the waterproofing of skylights and glasshouses where the putty has cracked. The tape, both sides of which have an adhesive and waterproof surface, is applied along the edge of the glazing bar after loose dirt and dust have been removed, the tape then being pressed down over the glazing bar and the edge of the glass. When fixing new glass, a strip of Sylglas cord is laid along the rebate of the glazing bar and the glass bedded on to it, after which the tape is applied in the same way. The tape is claimed to provide a permanent waterproof seal which needs no further attention, though it can, if necessary, be painted. The tape can also be used for waterproofing and the draughtproofing of the side and end laps of corrugated sheeting and it should also be useful for improving the insulation of ex-

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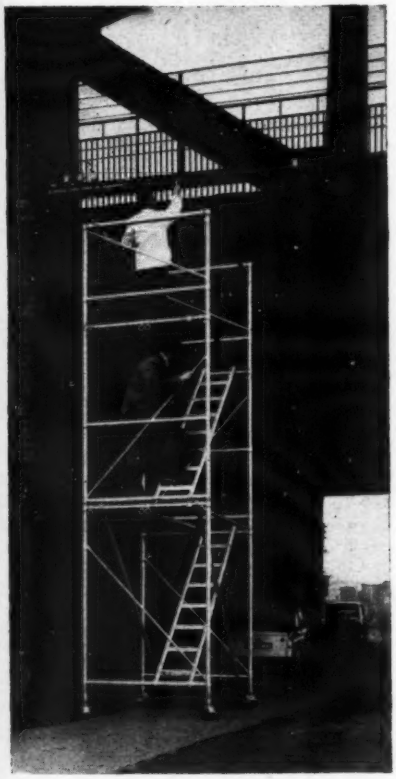
technical section

ternal water taps. The usual insulation of sacking or hair-felt is not satisfactory once it becomes wet, and the tape, although not itself an insulator, will keep the insulation dry.

The tape is produced in widths varying from 1 in. to 4 in., the price being 2s. 9d. for a 30 ft. roll, 1 in. wide, other widths being in proportion. A 75 ft. coil of the cord costs 13s. (*Winn & Coales Ltd., Denso House, Chapel Road, London, S.E.*27.)

PORTABLE STAGING

Rapid access to ceiling fittings in staircase wells or over showcases in shops is always something of a difficulty and although the problem is more for the builder than for the architect, readers may be interested to know of Zip-up staging, which can be quickly erected on uneven ground or staircases up to a maximum height of 75 ft. Two basic types of staging are produced, one a span type bridging across showcases, desks or factory machinery, and a tower type having an integral staircase which can be built up to a maximum of 75 ft. Both types of staging are made in aluminium



The tower type of Zip-up staging.

alloy and are quickly set up, as the various frames, platforms and braces are connected by a quick-acting snap action locking hook which allows a 20 ft. high platform to be built by one man in about two minutes. Equipment of this kind should be extremely useful for factory maintenance. (*Access Equipment Ltd., Braemar Avenue, Neasden, London, N.W.*10.)

INFORMATION CENTRE

A digest of current information prepared by independent specialists ; printed so that readers may cut out items for filing and paste them up in classified order.

10.145 design: building types
CHURCHES

The Modern Church. Edward D. Mills. (The Architectural Press Ltd. 30s.)

This is a very useful reference book on a badly documented and—still more—an underdeveloped subject. It consists of three main sections: the first is a consideration of the functional standards a church must provide, rather on the lines of a Post-War Building Study; the second is a collection of plans and photographs of the most interesting jobs and projects which have come to light in this country and abroad during the past ten years or so (but including, of course, Metzger's San Carlo Borromeo of 1933-5, the father of modern church building); and the third is a long appendix giving precise planning data of all elements and features according to the needs of each denomination.

No one would claim that this treatment of the subject makes for exciting reading. The author is nothing if not methodical, a virtue which causes him to wade patiently through long passages of undoubted but self-evident truth. His history is weak: in favour of the durability of timber, for instance, he cites the roof of the Basilica of St. Paul's in Rome which "still stands to-day." In fact it was burnt to a cinder in 1823, for the present church is only a facsimile of the old one: but fortunately there are other, happier, examples of long-lived timber church structures. Nor are his views on English Church History unexceptionable. These matters are not of great importance here, however, for it is on the technical, functional side that the main weight of the book is placed. Mr. Mills, in the absence of any reliable information either on heating costs or on building costs, has taken the excellent course of getting a set of comparative heating estimates (i.e. for both running and installation) for a new Methodist Church; and another set of comparative figures showing the rising building costs of an imaginary church in the outer London area if it were built at various intervals between 1908 and 1955. This last should be a useful shield in the architect's hand when he has to face an astonished church building committee.

On planning, the author seems to envisage a long rectangular plan for all denominations and does not distinguish sufficiently between the Protestant conception of a church which is essentially a place where people assemble on Sundays, and the Catholic conception which is that of a place where people resort at all times and not necessarily with the purpose of taking part in any service which may be going on. This difference ought to exert a decisive influence both on circulation and heating policy, though in fairness we must admit that so little thought has been given to the problem by church designers that in practice it doesn't.

One other omission is the vexed problem of where to put the organ: a matter which was discussed at some length in one of the booklets of the Incorporated Church Building Society.

To sum up, this is a first attempt to gather together all we ought to know about a building type which is now passing through a long, dry winter: it would be most unwise for any architect who has a church to build to omit the precaution of reading it.

10.146 design: building types
SCHOOL LABORATORIES

The Planning of Science Laboratories in Schools. Prepared by Richard Sheppard & Partners for the Industrial Fund for the Advancement of Scientific Education in Schools, 20, Savile Row, W.1. (Free.)

The availability of nearly three million pounds from industry is going to lead to a very considerable building of science laboratories in schools. Already over four hundred schools have applied for assistance from the fund. In the absence of any recent study of the subject, such as a Ministry of Education Building Bulletin, it was a very wise step for the Committee of the Fund to have prepared a brochure on the subject.

The brochure deals with laboratories for general science and for the more specialised work of advanced classes. A size of 960 sq. ft. is given as correct for general laboratories for twenty-five to thirty pupils. A definite size is not given for advanced laboratories but it is suggested that a run of at least 3 ft. of bench per pupil is required. Some may find that 3 ft. is not sufficient and it is to be hoped that grant aid will not depend upon keeping to a size which will later prove too cramped for adequate working. Also the suggestion that classes of fifteen pupils would be the maximum required for seniors may not always apply in large schools. The brochure gives useful diagrams showing various ways of arranging benches, etc., and for appropriate grouping of rooms.

Physical requirements for natural and artificial lighting, ventilation, blackout and heating are each briefly but helpfully covered and there are also sections dealing with services, fittings and materials.

Most valuable as a guide to architects preparing schemes for submission with grant applications is a section on costs. This includes a table of space and costs standards which gives clear guidance on what the



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technical section

Committee considers reasonable, and it shows the cost of furniture and fittings as separate from other building costs. The prices should permit a reasonable standard of building and finishes, but allow no margin for luxury or wasteful planning.

Altogether a most useful publication. Essential for architects working on schemes which will be the subject of grant applications and very useful for anyone working on teaching laboratories.

10.147 design: building types
SURGERIES AND CLINICS

Good General Practice. Dr. Stephen Taylor, Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust. (Oxford University Press. 12s. 6d.) *The Health Centres at Harlow*. By a group of doctors and dentists. (The Lancet. Oct. 22, 1955.) *Doctors' Offices and Clinics*. P. H. Kirk and E. D. Sternberg. (Chapman & Hall Ltd. 96s.) *The Doctor's Surgery*. Dr. M. Arnold and John Ware, FRIBA. (The Practitioner. July-Dec., 1955.)

The past five years have seen a profound change in the status of general practice. When the National Health Service came into being in July, 1948, the GPs felt they were the "forgotten men." Many millions were being spent on up-grading the staff of the former local-authority and poor-law hospitals, with great benefit to the public whom these hospitals served. For the GPs, however, life continued largely unchanged. There were more patients to be seen in the same old surgeries; and the doctor who spent money on improving his own accommodation found himself with that much less in his pocket at the end of the day. The public seemed quite indifferent to the doctor's working environment. And the promised health centres failed to materialise.

It took three years for frustration to culminate in action. There followed a series of surveys and investigations the like of which no profession has ever before suffered. In consequence, more is now known about the work and working conditions of general practitioners than about any other comparable group inside or outside medicine. The general practitioners have themselves formed their own College, to stand alongside the ancient Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, and to raise the standards and status of general practice. Moreover, they have asked the government to withhold from their pooled NHS incomes the sum of £100,000 per annum, to provide interest-free building loans to GPs wanting to set up in group practice. Loans under this scheme have been available for the past three years, and in consequence an increasing number of new buildings and conversion schemes are going ahead.

A "group-practice" is defined as two or more GPs working together in clinical association (they need not be in financial partnership, though this is usual) in the same building, with one or more ancillary helpers (secretary, nurse or dispenser). Such groups have been a feature of most country towns for the past twenty or thirty years, and it is here that British general practice has reached its finest flowering. Often a Queen Anne or a Georgian house has been gradually converted into the "group-practice centre," with consulting-rooms, dispensary, record office, surgery, and sometimes a small laboratory or X-ray room.

The functional reproduction of these "group-practice centres" in our great cities, especially in their industrial areas, and in new areas of development whether suburban or outcounty, is now the objective, official and unofficial, of those who have "good general practice" at heart.

A detailed functional analysis of both the individual surgery and the group-practice centre is to be found in the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust's survey of *Good General Practice*. The chapter in this survey on the GPs accommodation will relieve the architect faced with the design of a group-practice centre of much tedious initial investigation.

Moreover, the conclusions reached have been tested out in prototype buildings. The Nuffield Trust had already created experimental health centres at Manchester and Corby before the survey was published; since the survey, the Trust has built three group-practice centres at Harlow New Town. These have been described in detail in the *Lancet* by the doctors and dentists who are using them.

From the survey and these experiments, a pattern of general-practice accommodation for new communities is starting to emerge. Costs have to be kept down, so all attempts at grandiosity go by the board. The aim is to combine functional efficiency with the quality of homeliness. The GP must attract and hold his patients in free competition with his fellows. So the atmosphere of the impersonal clinic is replaced by that of a large friendly living-room.

It is against this background that the relevance of a new volume in the American Progressive Architecture Library must be judged. *Doctors' Offices and Clinics—Medical and Dental*, by Paul Hayden Kirk and Eugene D. Sternberg, shows how American architects are interpreting the requirements of American GPs in low-density housing areas.

With the decentralisation and suburbanisation of most American cities, the doctors are moving out from their up-town "offices." The GP in the commercial block takes colour from his surroundings. The GP in a low-density high-income suburb can create for himself a new and exciting workplace, which will increase his own efficiency and his patients' satisfaction. As in the English country towns in the past the economics of the situation force him into group practice. He is as concerned as the English GP to keep down costs. The result is that the architectural solutions provided in Kirk and Sternberg's valuable book are closely in line with those evolved by the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust at Harlow.

The essence of the new group-practice centre, whether English or American, is tight internal planning, low room-heights, one-storey construction, flat or single-pitch roofs, and a minimum of ostentation, external or internal. A domestic non-institutional exterior is the rule, and timber is widely used, both inside and out. Almost always there is an entrance canopy, providing a shelter for prams. Parking space, for both doctors and patients, is increasingly important.

On the whole, the American architects have resisted the temptation to build the group-practice centre largely out of glass. For obvious reasons, any room in which a patient undresses must have privacy; yet the doctor at his desk should have some kind of outlook, preferably onto a garden. Again, patients in the doctor's waiting-room are not particularly glad to be seen from the road, like fish in an illuminated aquarium. Where glass is used liberally, good shading with canopies or special screens appears to be the rule.

There are certain minor technical differences between the British and American group-practice centre. In small communities, the American GPs still provide their own X-ray plant as they often did in the English country town twenty years ago. The American GP employs rather more ancillary help than his English counterpart. The American GP uses his examination rooms as we use a consulting-room. Our conception of the small examination room attached to the consulting-room is probably a product of the average NHS G.P.'s heavier patient-load.

In the larger American centres, a windowless central core is common. The British love of direct access to the fresh air has much to commend it, especially when the air is contaminated many times in the hour by the grosser examples of human pathology. No English GP can afford elaborate air-conditioning.

In the monthly medical journal *The Practitioner*, an architect and a general practitioner have been putting their heads together to give guidance to GPs about how to build or rebuild their surgeries. There are a number of useful tips, about the choice of materials, heating, ventilation and equipment. The elevations and lay-out shown are, however, a little disappointing, and the authors appear to be unaware of the great amount of careful study which has recently been made of the GP's work and requirements.

Faced with a GP-client, the architect will find *Doctors' Offices and Clinics* and *Good General Practice* give him more than enough basic information to interpret his client's real needs.

CLASSIFICATION FOR TECHNICAL ARTICLES AND INFORMATION CENTRE

1 Sociology. 2 Planning: General. 3 Planning: Regional & National. 4 Planning: Urban & Rural. 5 Planning: Public Utilities. 6 Planning: Social & Recreational. 7 Practice. 8 Surveying & Specification. 9 Design: General. 10 Design: Building Types. 11 Materials: General. 12 Materials: Metal. 13 Materials: Timber. 14 Materials: Concrete. 15 Materials: Applied Finishes & Treatments. 16 Materials: Miscellaneous. 17 Construction: General. 18 Construction: Theory. 19 Construction: Details. 20 Construction: Complete Structures. 21 Construction: Miscellaneous. 22 Sound Insulation & Acoustics. 23 Heating & Ventilation. 24 Lighting. 25 Water Supply & Sanitation. 26 Services & Equipment: Miscellaneous. 27 Furniture & Fittings. 28 Miscellaneous.



OFFICE EFFICIENCY THROUGH

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ST. HELENS LANCASHIRE

ACO.3

technical section

8 ESTIMATING
materials' prices

Current rates of wages and market prices of materials prepared by Davis, Belfield and Everest, Chartered Quantity Surveyors. Rates for measured work will be published in the JOURNAL for June 21. Prices of materials and measured work last appeared in the JOURNAL for February 9.

Rates of Wages rose on April 16, 1956, and are now as follows:—

	Craftsmen.	Labourers.
LONDON DISTRICT		
Within 12 miles radius	4s. 5d.	3s. 10½d.
From 12-15 „ „	4s. 4½d.	3s. 10d.
LIVERPOOL and DISTRICT	4s. 5d.	3s. 10½d.

GRADE CLASSIFICATIONS	A	A¹	A²
Craftsmen	4s. 3½d.	4s. 3d.	4s. 2½d.
Labourers	3s. 9d.	3s. 8½d.	3s. 8d.

Prices vary according to quality and the quantity ordered.

Those given below are average market prices and include delivery in the London area, except where otherwise stated, but do not include overhead charges and profit for the General Contractor.

CONCRETOR

Cements

Portland to B.S. 12, 6 tons and over	per ton	101/6
Rapid hardening to B.S. 12, 6 tons and over	„	112/–
Aquacrete water repellant, 6 tons and over	„	134/–
Aluminous to B.S. 915, 1 ton lots	„	307/–
Sulphate resisting cement, 6 tons and over	„	134/–
Snowcrete, 1 ton lots	„	262/–

Above prices include for delivery to Charing Cross in non-returnable paper bags or cotton sacks.

Aggregate and Sands, etc. (Full Loads)

¼″ (down) Washed, crushed and graded shingle to B.S. 882, Table 2	per yard cube	21/1
1½″ Ditto	„	20/2
⅛″ Sharp washed sand to B.S. 882, Table 3	„	24/2
Vermiculite, ¼″ down	per ton	720/–
Brick hardcore	per yard cube	9/6
Ashes	„	10/6

(For Sands for Bricklaying and Plastering, see respective trades)

Floor Blocks

		4″	6″	7″
Floor blocks, 12″ × 12″	per 1,000	714/–	957/–	1,168/–

Reinforcement

Home trade maximum basis price for mild steel rods to B.S. 785, ⅛″ diameter and upwards, ex mills delivered to station or siding	per ton	£36	9	0
Extras for sizes:—				
Under ¼″ down to and including ⅜″ diameter	„	£2	19	6
„ 7/16″ „ „ „ „ ½″ „ „		£3	2	0
„ ½″ „ „ „ „ 9/16″ „ „		£3	12	0
„ 9/16″ „ „ „ „ ⅝″ „ „		£4	12	0
„ ⅝″ „ „ „ „ ¾″ „ „		£6	12	0
„ ¾″ „ „ „ „ ⅞″ „ „		£8	12	0
„ ⅞″ „ „ „ „ 1″ „ „		£9	12	0

Fabric Reinforcement

	16.35 lb.	9.32 lb.	4.71 lb.	1.83 lb.
Steel wire mesh fabric to B.S. 1221, Part A. per yd. super	9/–	5/2½	2/7½	1/5½

BRICKLAYER

Common Bricks

Common stocks	per 1,000	132/10
Rough stocks	„	174/4
Mild stocks	„	215/10
Sand limes	„	112/–
Phorpres pressed flettons	„	113/–

Facing Bricks

Hand-selected sand limes	per 1,000	148/–
Phorpres rustic flettons	„	138/–
Stocks, first hard	„	271/4
Stocks, second hard	„	250/4
Southwater pressed sandfaced reds	„	319/–
Dorking pressed sandfaced multicoloured facings	„	256/6

Engineering Bricks

Lingfield engineering wirecuts. Grade 'B'	per 1,000	239/–
Southwater engineering No. 2 (second quality red pressed)	„	306/6
Blue pressed bricks to B.S. 1301	„	567/6

Glazed Bricks

	Best quality. £	s.	d.
White, ivory or brown, 9″ × 2⅞″ × 4½″ delivered London stations.			
Headers per 1,000	74	0	6
Stretchers „	75	4	0

Seconds quality above prices less 10%.

Limes and Sands

		1 ton lots
†Lime, greystone, to B.S. 890	per ton	119/6
†Lime, chalk, ditto	„	119/6
*Lime, hydrated, ditto	„	132/–
Washed pit sand to B.S. 1200	per yard cube	24/2

* Including paper bags.

† Hire of jute sacks charged at 1/6 and credited at 1/6. If left, charged at 1/9.

Sundries

	Imported	Welsh	
10 s.w. gauge galvanized butterfly type wall ties to B.S. 1243	per 1,000	112/–	
Wall ties, galvanized, 8″ × ¾″ × ¼″, to B.S. 1243	per cwt.	93/9	
Damp proof course slates: Size 14″ × 9″	per 100	43/6	87/–
„ 14″ × 4½″	„	21/–	38/9
Hessian base bitumen damp course to B.S. 743	per yard super	5/4	

		9″ × 3″	9″ × 6″	9″ × 9″
Terra-cotta airbricks	each	1/3	2/7	5/6
Galvanized cast-iron airbricks	„	3/4	6/7	8/6
Galvanized cast-iron hit-and-miss ventilators	„	3/5	5/8	8/6

Wall reinforcement supplied in standard rolls containing 25 yards lineal

‡ 2″ wide black japanned	per roll	3/7
‡2½″ wide black japanned	„	4/6

‡ Greater widths pro rata 2½″ price, carriage paid on orders of £7.

Discount for quantities.

Partitions, etc.

		2″	2½″	3″	4″	
Clinker concrete solid	per yard super	3/9	4/4	5/3	6/5	
Thermalite-Ytong	„	—	6/11	8/3½	10/9	
Hollow clay to B.S. 1190 (keyed)	„	4/4	4/7	5/4	—	4½″
Moler (keyed)	„	15/–	15/6	16/–	19/9	21/–
Leca blocks Solid	„	6/–	6/8	8/–	10/–	
Hollow	„	7/6	8/6	9/6	—	
Building blocks (keyed):— 6 cavity	per yard super					4″ 6/9
Normal quality woodwool slabs		1″	1½″	2″	2½″	3″
Minimum delivery, square yards, per yd. super		500 5/–	400 6/6	325 8/–	275 9/2	250 10/3

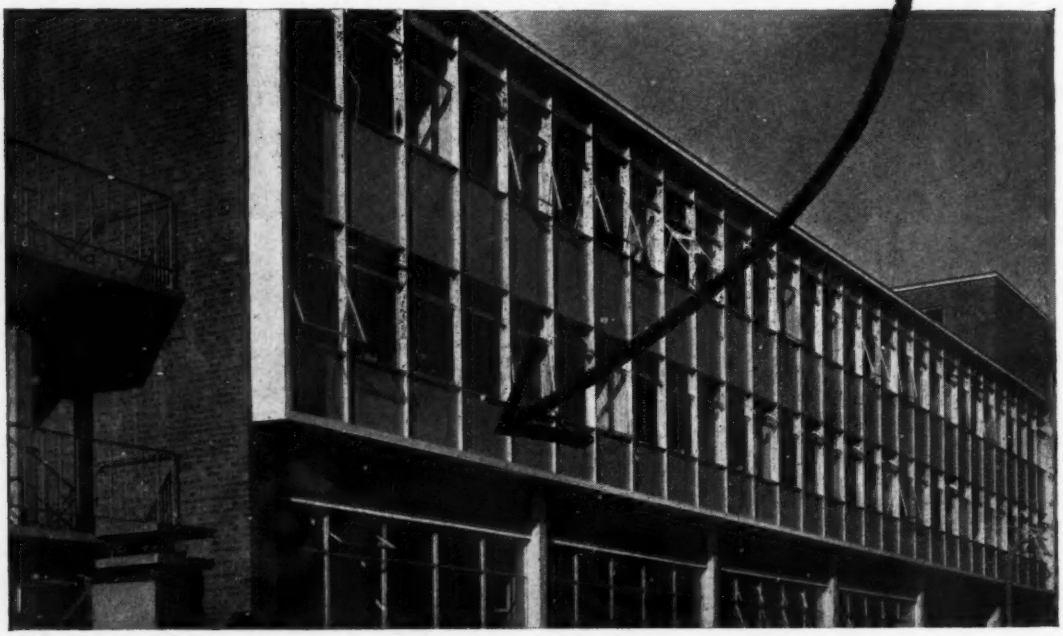
PAVIOR

2″ coarse gravel for paths	per yard cube	23/3
¼″ fine ditto	„	24/9
Clean granite chippings to B.S. 1201, Table 4 (in 5-ton loads)	per ton	44/9
Red quarry tiles 6″ × 6″ × ¾″, to B.S. 1286	per yard super	18/3
Ditto 6″ × 6″ × ½″, to B.S. 1286	„	15/6
Buff quarry tiles, 6″ × 6″ × ¾″, to B.S. 1286	„	21/9
Ditto 6″ × 6″ × ½″, to B.S. 1286	„	18/6
2″ Noelite paving in mixed colours and random sizes	„	13/–

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technical section

DRAINLAYER

Clay Land Drain Pipes to B.S. 1196

		3″	4″
Pipes in 12″ lengths	per 1,000	220/6	289/6

Salt Glazed Stoneware Pipes and Fittings

The following percentages to be added to the Standard List prices.

	Orders for 2 tons and over	Orders under 2 tons 100 pieces upwards	Orders under 2 tons less than 100 pieces
Seconds Quality	85% less 15%	117½% less 15%	130% less 15%
Best Quality	85%	117½%	130%
British Standard Quality	85% + 10%	117½% + 10%	130% + 10%
Tested Quality....	85% + 37½%	117½% + 37½%	130% + 37½%
British Standard Tested	85% + 47½%	117½% + 47½%	130% + 47½%

Cast Iron Drain Pipes and Fittings

Socket and spigot pipes to B.S. 437:—

Weight per 9 ft Size				9 fts. each	6 fts. each	4 fts. each	3 fts. each	2 fts. each
1	1	17	4″	75/3	54/–	41/7	32/2	25/5
2	0	1	6″	110/9	83/10	64/10	51/7	38/5
3	3	21	9″	206/3	166/8	136/9	105/7	

Tonnage Allowances :—Orders up to 2 tons nett.

		4″	6″	9″
*Bends (short radius)	each	15/6	41/3	115/6
*Single junctions	„	27/6	66/–	171/–
*Intercepting traps	„	101/6	155/6	335/–
*Gullies ordinary trapped "P"	„	39/9		
*Extra for 4″ vertical back inlet	„	8/3		
*Grease gully trap	„	325/3		

* These prices are subject to 12½% plusage.

Channels in Brown Glazed Ware

Standard list + same percentages as "Best" quality salt-glazed Stoneware pipes.

White Glazed Channels

Orders under £30, makers' list value. Standard list + 10%.

Manhole covers and frames

		Size of load	Unit price
C.I. coated double triangular manhole cover and frame, 22″ dia. clear opening to B.S. 497, Grade A	each	35 tons	210/2
C.I. coated circular manhole cover and frame, 22″ dia. clear opening to B.S. 497, Grade B	each	5 tons	112/–

		Size of load	Single seal Flat type	Double seal Flat type
Coated manhole cover and frame to B.S. 497, Grade C, 24″ × 18″	each	1 ton	38/5	54/9
Galvanized ditto, 24″ × 18″	each	1 ton	69/–	96/10
Coated manhole cover and frame, to B.S. 497, Grade C, 24″ × 24″	each	1 ton	58/8	87/7
Galvanized ditto, 24″ × 24″	each	1 ton	106/10	151/8

MASON

Yorkstone

Building quality Robin Hood and Woodkirk Blue Stone.

Blocks scrappled, random sizes	per foot cube	14/–
Add for blocks to dimension sizes	„	1/6 (each dimension)
Templates with sawn beds, edges rough (up to 4 ft. super and not over 2′ 6″ long)	„	16/–
Templates with sawn beds, sawn one edge	„	18/–
Price f.o.r. Yorkshire, railway rate to London Station per ton. (Minimum 4-ton loads)		66/4

Bath stone in random blocks

Monk's Park	per foot cube	8/1½
St. Aldhelm Box Ground	„	9/1½

Delivered on rail at South Lambeth Station.

Portland stone in random blocks, average 20 feet cube

Whitbed	per foot cube	8/5

Delivered on rail at Nine Elms Station.

Somerset stone in random blocks

Doulting	per foot cube	8/11

Artificial Stone to B.S. 1217

4½″ × 4″ Sill, sunk, weathered, throated and grooved	per foot run	3/3
9″ × 3″ Ditto	„	4/11
2″ × 12″ Coping, weathered and twice throated	„	4/3
3″ × 12″ Ditto	„	6/6
5″ × 12″ Saddleback coping, twice throated	„	9/8
6″ × 12″ Ditto	„	10/9

SLATER, TILER AND ROOFER

Slates

		£	s.	d.
16″ × 10″ Best Bangor Slates to B.S. 680	per 1,000 actual	52	10	0
20″ × 10″ Ditto	„	96	0	0

Tiles

Best hand-made sandfaced 10½″ × 6½″ red roofing tiles ex works	per 1,000	236/6
Machine-made sandfaced best red tiles with continuous nibs, 10½″ × 6½″ ditto	„	190/–
Delivery to London sites 37/– to 45/– per 1000		
Bridgwater hand made red sandfaced pantiles, in 6-ton loads	„	878/–
Bridgwater hand made red sandfaced Double Roman tiles, in 6-ton loads	„	1,156/6
Concrete plain tiles, 10½″ × 6½″	„	156/–
Ditto interlocking tiles, 15″ × 9″	„	420/–
Ditto Double Roman Tiles	„	740/–

Asbestos-cement

*6″ corrugated sheets, grey	per yard super	6/1

* Prices are for minimum two-ton loads, and are subject to 5% trade discount.

Felt

Reinforced roofing felt to B.S. 747	per yard sup.	1/7
Roofing felt (1-ply bitumen) to B.S. 747, Part I	„	1/7
Bituminous hair felt to B.S. 747, Part II	„	2/9

CARPENTER AND JOINER

Wall boards

¼″ Imported Fibre board (per 100 sq. ft.)	5,000 to 15,000 sq. ft.	41/6
¼″ Imported Hardboard (per 100 sq. ft.)		40/–
⅛″ Imported Hardboard (per 100 sq. ft.)		62/3
* 5/16″ Semi compressed asbestos cement flat building sheets, grey, size 8′ × 4′	per yard super	3/7
* ¼″ Ditto	„	4/10

* Prices are for orders of 2 tons and over. Subject to 5% trade discount.

Sundries

"Sisalkraft" standard grade	per yard sup.	–/10½
"Sisalkraft" subsoil grade	„	–/6½
"Sisalation" single sided	„	1/10½
"Sisalation" double sided	„	2/10
Fibre glass Bitumen bonded	„	1/9½

Timber

Softwood for Carpentry (average price)	per std.	£97
Softwood for Joinery (ditto)	„	£107
Tongued and Grooved Softwood Flooring (ditto)	„	£107
*First Quality European Oak	per ft. cube	25/– to 40/–
*Teak	„	40/– to 80/–

* Prices vary considerably depending on specification.

Standard Panelled and Glazed Wood Doors to B.S. 459, Pt. I

Type 4	size 2′ 6″ × 6′ 6″ × 1½″	each	35/3
Type 2 × G	size 2′ 6″ × 6′ 6″ × 2″	„	42/9
Type 4 × G	size 2′ 6″ × 6′ 6″ × 2″	„	49/–

In lots of from 1 to 11 inclusive.

Wood Windows

N 26 V	size 1′ 5½″ × 2′ 6½″	each	21/10
2 26 V	size 4′ 0½″ × 2′ 6½″	„	43/8
N 40 V	size 1′ 5½″ × 4′ 0½″	„	24/8
3 40 V	size 5′ 11½″ × 4′ 0½″	„	76/7
4 40 V	size 7′ 10½″ × 4′ 0½″	„	96/3

In lots of from 1 to 20 inclusive.

technical section

Kitchen Units

No. 1	size 3′ 6″ × 2′ 8″ × 1′ 7″ each	166/3
No. 2	size 3′ 6″ × 2′ 8″ × 1′ 7″ „	115/3
No. 4	size 2′ 8″ × 1′ 9″ × 1′ 7″ „	102/–
No. 5	size 3′ 10″ × 1′ 9″ × 1′ 7″ „	88/7
No. 7	size 6′ 6″ × 1′ 9″ × 1′ 7″ „	133/5

Prices include for tops and plinths.

In lots of from 1 to 15 inclusive.

STEEL AND IRONWORKER

	£	s.	d.
Basis price for rolled steel joist sections, in 10 ft. to 50 ft. lengths ex mills per ton	34	12	6
Extra for sizes:—			
9″ × 7″, 10″ × 8″, 12″ × 8″, 14″ × 5½″ 14″ × 6″, 14″ × 8″, 15″ × 5″, 15″ × 6″, 16″ × 6″, 16″ × 8″, 18″ × 6″, 18″ × 7″, 18″ × 8″, 20″ × 6½″, 20″ × 7½″ Add per ton	10	0	
5″ × 4½″, 7″ × 3½″, 13″ × 5″ „ „	15	0	
5″ × 5″, 12″ × 5″, 22″ × 7″ „ „	1	0	0
3½″ × 3½″, 6″ × 4½″, 7″ × 4″, 8″ × 4″, 9″ × 4″, 10″ × 5″ „ „	1	5	0
4″ × 3″, 10″ × 4½″ „ „	1	10	0
4½″ × 4½″, 5″ × 2½″, 5″ × 3″ „ „	1	15	0
6″ × 3″, 24″ × 7½″ „ „	2	0	0
4″ × 4″ „ „	2	5	0
3″ × 3″ „ „	2	10	0
4½″ × 1½″ „ „	3	5	0
3″ × 1½″, 4″ × 1½″.... „ „	3	10	0
Basis price for angles ex mills per ton	33	16	6
„ „ „ tees „ „	33	16	6
„ „ „ solid steel columns „ „	37	6	6

All delivered Station or Siding.

Standard Metal Windows

Rustproof type

Type ND2F, 4′ 0″ × 3′ 3½″ each	47/– to 62/6
„ ZND2F, 4′ 0″ × 4′ 0″ „	53/– to 70/9

Prices vary with size of order, those given are maximum and minimum.

PLASTERER

Plaster and Cement

		1-ton loads	4-ton to 5 ton 19 cwt loads
Thistle (browning) to B.S.1191, Class B	per ton	157/6	144/9
Gypstone to B.S.1191, Class B	„	160/–	142/6
Paristone (haired) to B.S.1191, Class B	„	162/6	145/–
Ditto (unhaired)	„	160/–	142/6
Cretestone bonding plaster	„	170/–	152/6
Sirapite (coarse) to B.S.1191, Class C	„	154/–	142/9
Ditto (fine) to B.S. 1191, Class C	„	162/–	150/9
Keene's Pink to B.S.1191, Class D	„	211/9	
Keene's White to B.S.1191, Class D	„	217/–	
Cullamix (Tyrolean Finish), except chrome green	„	225/–	

Sundries

Sharp washed sand to B.S.1198	per yard cube				24/2
Cow Hair	per cwt.				97/6
Expanded metal lathing, 9′ 0″ × 2′ 0″ × ⅜″ mesh × 24 gauge	per yd. sup.				3/–
	75 to 149 yards	150-299 yards	300-599 yards	Over 600 yards	
¼″ Plasterboard (base board or lath) per yard super	2/10	2/8	2/6	2/3½	
⅜″ Insulating ditto, per yard super	3/4½	3/2½	3/1½	2/11½	
Plasterboard nails 12 G	per cwt.				121/–
Hessian Scrim cloth in 100-yard rolls, 3¼″ wide	per roll				7/9

Wall Tiles

The following prices are subject to 30 per cent. addition:—

Standard quality white glazed 6″ × 6″ × ¼″ per yard super	18/6
Cream glazed 6″ × 6″ × ¼″ „	20/6
Eggshell or glossy glazed 6″ × 6″ × ¼″ „	26/3

PLUMBER

Lead and Copper

	£	s.	d.
3½ lb. and upwards milled sheet lead in quantities of 5 cwts. to under 1 ton in sheets to B.S.1178 per cwt.		150/6	
Hot rolled copper sheeting in 1-ton lots (4′ × 2′ sheets), to B.S.899 23 wire gauge, per ton	449	5	0
Ditto 24 wire gauge, „	451	5	0
Zinc sheeting in 1-ton lots 14 gauge „	125	10	0

Cast Iron Goods

Percentage Adjustment on List No. 3300 A.B. 1/2/55.

Rainwater Goods (painted or unpainted)	Plus 10%
Soil goods (coated or uncoated)	Plus 10%

Mild Steel Rainwater Goods

		Standard List
Gutters (under 100 lengths)	Plus 3%	Less 22½%
Pipes and Fittings („ „)	Plus 3%	Less 22½%

Asbestos-Cement Rainwater Goods

The following prices are subject to 12½% trade discount.
Orders over £30 are subject to 17½% trade discount

Rainwater Pipes

	Diameter 2″	2½″	3″	4″	6″	
6′ 0″ lengths	7/11	8/6	10/3	13/7	27/4	each
10′ 0″ „	12/6	13/7	15/11	22/10	45/6	„

Gutters

	3″	4″	4½″	5″	6″	8″
Half round gutters 6ft. lengths each	5/3	6/3	6/5	7/7	10/7	13/1

INTERNAL PLUMBER

Lead pipe (basis, weights) in coils 5 cwts. to under 1 ton, up to 4″ bore to B.S.602	per cwt.			151/9
Light lead pipe ditto	per cwt.			153/3
Lead pipe to B.S. 1085	per cwt.			158/9
Polythene tubing, normal gauge in quantities of 500 ft. to 999 ft. per 100 ft.	½″ 55/6	¾″ 109/6	1″ 141/6	1½″ 227/–
Ditto, heavy gauge ditto per 100 ft.	118/–	163/6	208/–	—
Drawn lead traps with brass screw eye, to B.S.504	1½″-6lb.	1½″-6lb.		2″-7lb.
S. trap 1½″ seal each	7/8	9/1		15/6
„ 3″ deep seal „	9/2	10/10		17/9
Drawn copper traps to B.S. 1184	1½″	1½″		2″
S. trap 1½″ seal each	26/4	29/3		—
„ 3″ deep seal „	28/5	31/6		50/5

Screwed and Socketed Steel Tubes and Fittings for Gas, Water and Steam, etc.

Fittings and tubes ordered in long random lengths are subject to the following trade discounts:—

Tubes: ½″ to 4″	Fittings:	
Class B 6%	Lightweight	plus 18½%
„ C plus 8½%	Heavyweight	plus 26½%
Galvanized Class B plus 16½%	Galvanized:	
„ „ C plus 33½%	Lightweight	plus 32%
Galvanized malleable fittings	Heavyweight	plus 39½%

Less 31½% less 6½% plus 40%.

Copper tubing to B.S. 659 and 1386. Basic price per lb. 3/4½

GLAZIER

Sheet Glass, cut to size (ordinary glazing quality), to B.S.952, Section A

18 oz. per foot super	–/6½
24 oz. „	–/8½
32 oz. „	1/2½

Polished Plate Glass, ordinary substance, approximately ¼″, to B.S.952, Section A.

In plates not exceeding:		Glazing quality	Selected glazing	Silvering quality
2 ft. super	per foot super	3/7	4/3	5/1
5 ft. super	„	4/5	5/2	6/2
*45 ft. super	„	5/1	5/9	6/11
*100 ft. super	„	5/6	6/9	8/10

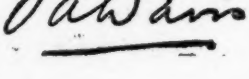
* Extra sizes, *i.e.*, plates exceeding 100 ft. super or 160 in. one way or 96 in., both ways at higher prices.

⅛″ figured rolled and cathedral, to B.S.952, Section B—standard patterns, white	per foot super	–/10
3/16″ or ¼″ rolled plate, patterns, white	„	1/1
3/16″ or ¼″ rough cast, patterns, white	„	1/1
¼″ Georgian wired cast, patterns, white, Section D	„	1/3½
¼″ Georgian wired polished plate, Section D	„	5/1
¼″ wired cast	„	1/3½

Attention is drawn to reductions in certain glass prices offered by manufacturers for acceptance of specified minimum quantities of one size and substance delivered to one address at one time.

PAINTER

White ceiling distemper	per cwt.	29/–
Washable distemper	per cwt. from	112/–
Primer, general purpose	per gallon	33/6
Ready mixed, white lead paint	„	69/6
Flat oil paint	„	39/–
Emulsion paint	„	44/–
Hard gloss paint:		
Undercoat	„	42/–
Finishing	„	44/–
White Portland cement paint	per cwt.	71/–



F.R.I.C.S., F.I.Arb.

building illustrated

ASSEMBLY HALL

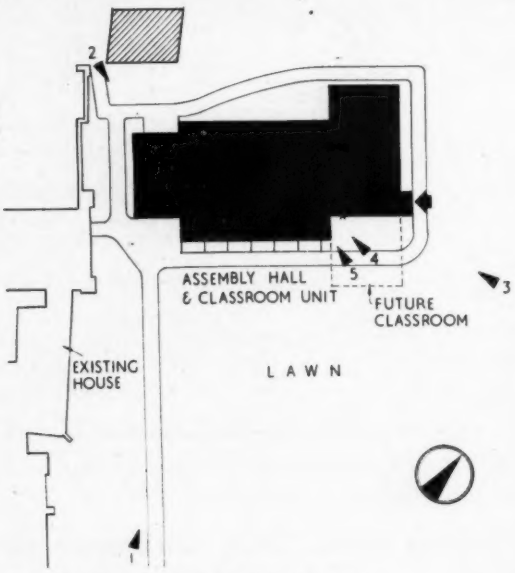
at GREAT OFFLEY, HITCHIN, HERTS. for the HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
designed by WOODROFFE, BUCHANAN and COULTER

The assembly hall at the Teachers' Training College, Offley, stands in the mature garden of Offley Place, a scheduled building of great character. The hall accommodates some fifty trainees during their two-year course, with additional classroom accommodation for botany and music. The architects' choice of timber for their main building material was influenced partly by their desire to harmonise with the mellow brickwork of the existing house. The extremely simple but unusual construction consists of interlocking solid unframed timbers, a system developed for J. Thorn & Sons, Ltd., who erected the walling and roof members.

Viewpoint 1: from the south-east.



building illustrated



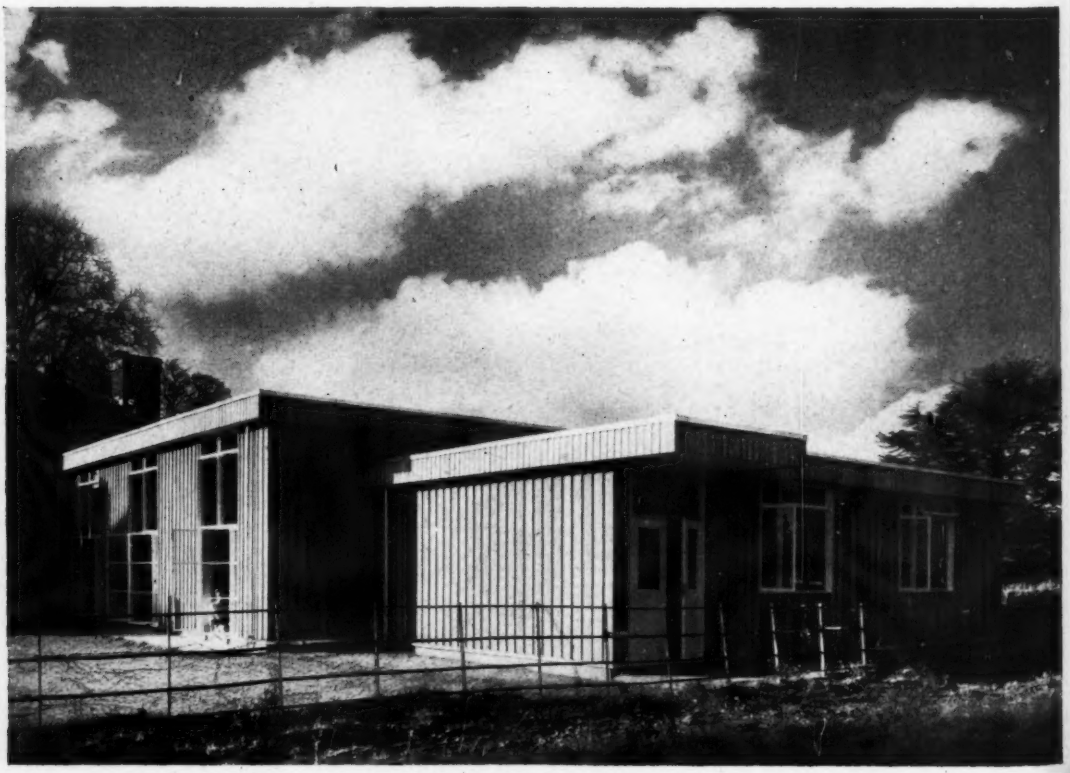
Key plan showing photographic viewpoints



ASSEMBLY HALL

at OFFLEY, HERTS
designed by WOODROFFE, BUCHANAN and COULTER

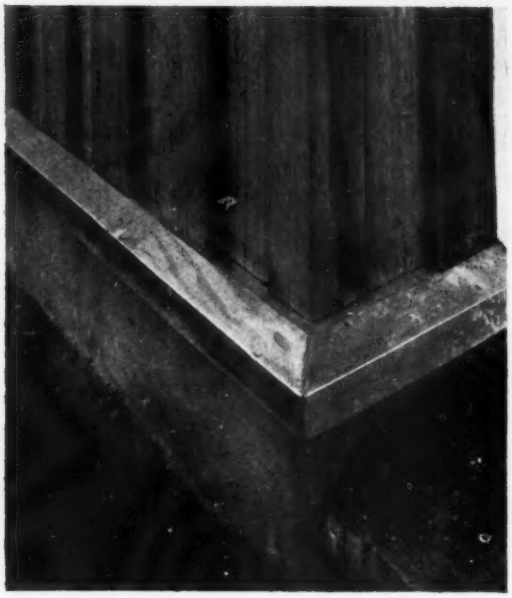
Above right: the entrance to the assembly hall is from the stable court of the existing house, viewpoint 2, the corner of one wall of which can be seen in the foreground. White painted doors contrast with hardwood of the main structure, to the right of the entrance are lavatories and a small room for music. Below: every view of the new building has as its background either the mellow brickwork of the existing house or groups of fine trees. Here, in viewpoint 3, the hall is bounded by a classroom mainly to be used for biology, the lobby will eventually link this with a further classroom.



building illustrated

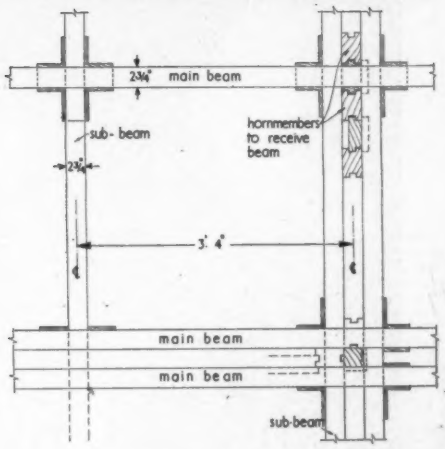
Right (viewpoint 4): the junction of the low to high elements of the building is extremely simple and very neatly executed, the use of timber has eased one of the most complicated details in contemporary design.

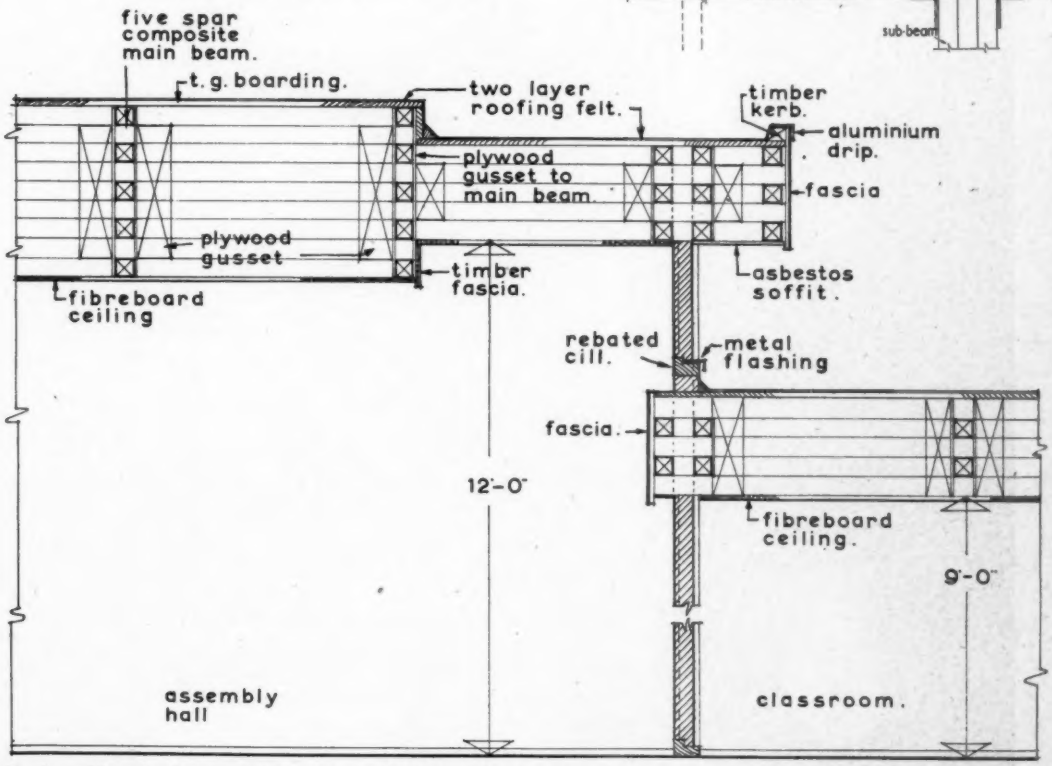




The aluminium sill (viewpoint 5) is dressed over a 6 in. × 3 in. timber member which forms the base member for the external walling and is plugged to a 5-in. concrete slab and 12-in. edge beam.

Right: plan detail at beam level [Scale: ½" = 1' 0"]

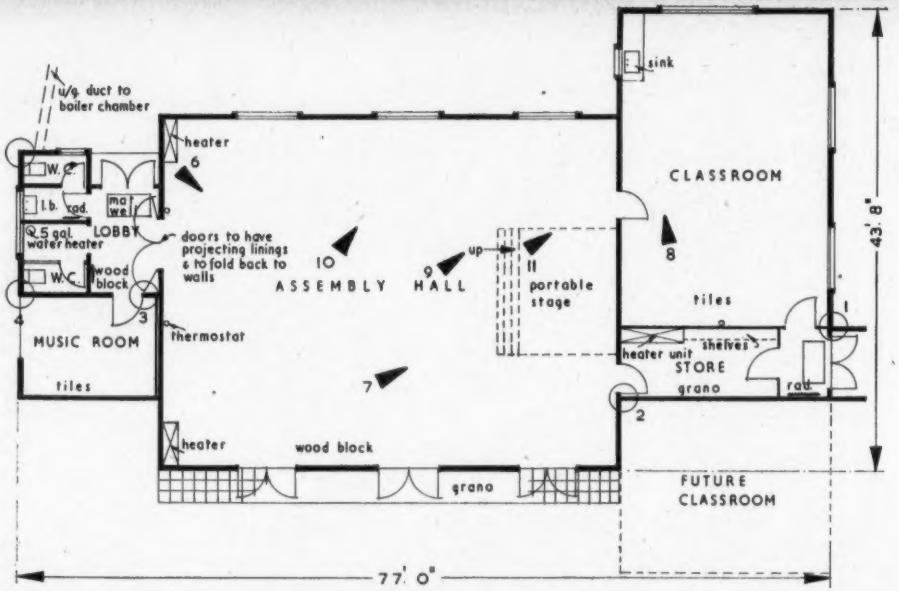




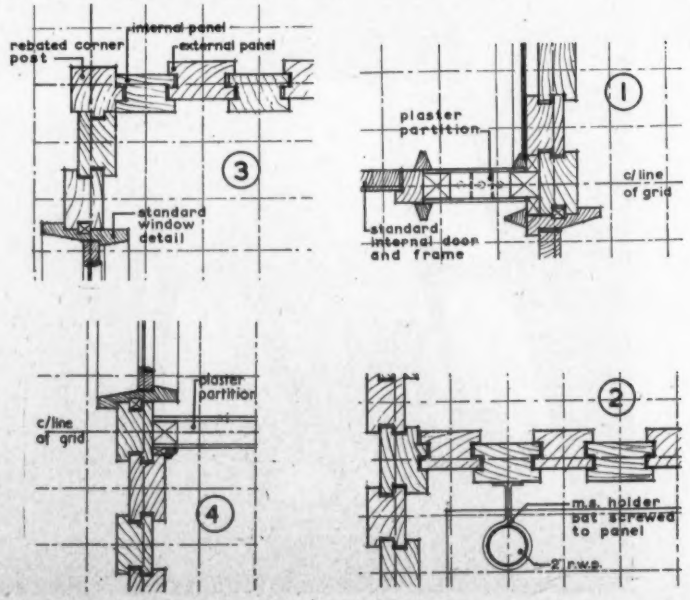
Section of junction between high and low level roofs [Scale: ½" = 1' 0"]



Opposite page (viewpoint 6): The hall itself which is to



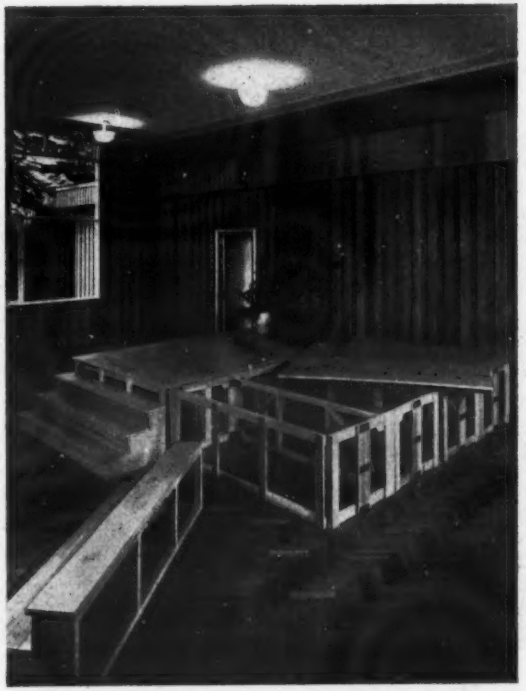
Ground floor plan (showing interior photographic viewpoints) [Scale: $\frac{1}{16}$" = 1' 0"]
Right: plan details [Scale: 1" = 1' 0"]



ASSEMBLY HALL

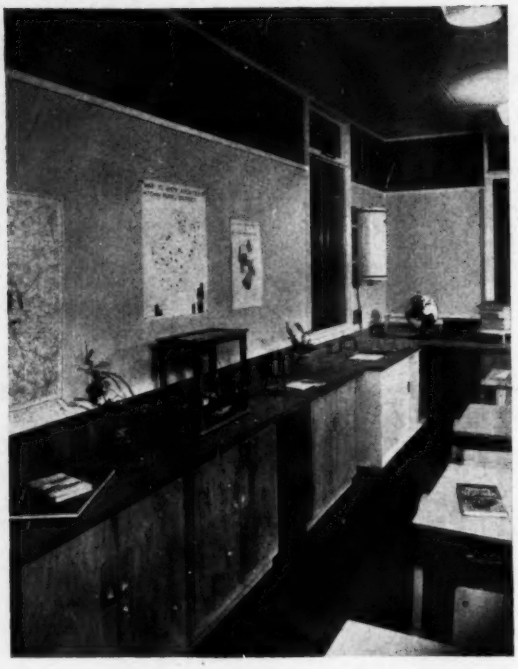
at OFFLEY, HERTS
designed by WOODROFFE, BUCHANAN and COULTER

Opposite page (viewpoint 6): The hall itself which is to accommodate fifty trainees; here the single skin hardwood walls are visible from the inside, these walls are three inches thick consisting of interlocked timbers, which are staggered, the U-value being estimated at 0·23. The ceiling is constructed of 40-in. squares of insulation board painted white, the centre of the ceiling being dropped to accommodate the additional depth of the wide span trusses. These trusses consist of 3 in. × 3 in. timber members built up to form an open web interlocking beam using plywood gusset plates (see top photo on page 653). The beams are at 40-in. centres their load being taken on the walling.



Viewpoint 7: This shows the interchangeable components, which can be used to form stages and platforms of varying sizes and arrangements. The whole can be folded and stored in an adjoining room.

building illustrated

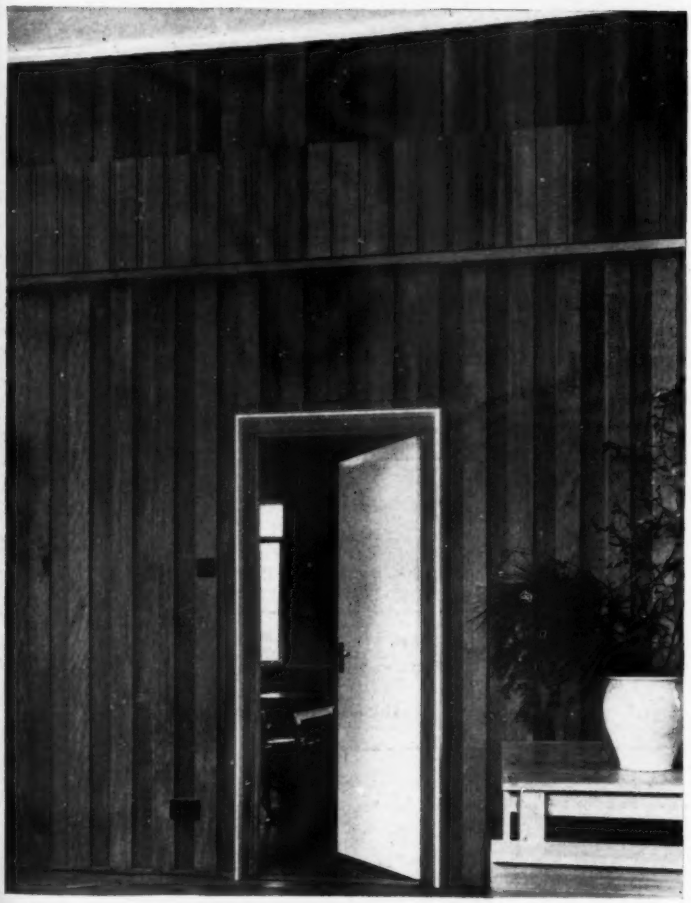


Left, viewpoint 8: The biology classroom is equipped with standard Hertfordshire County Council benches and cupboards, the ceiling is again white painted insulation board, the only applied colour in the building appears here on the pin-up boards. Below, viewpoint 11: at either end the fascia of the adjoining ancillary rooms projects into the higher assembly hall and repeats the pattern of the walling. Perhaps it would have been simpler to run the boarding in this instance horizontally. It is interesting that the addition of an eaves angle seems to destroy the continuity of the fascia from within to without the building.



building illustrated





ASSEMBLY HALL

at OFFLEY, HERTS

designed by WOODROFFE, BUCHANAN and COULTER

Viewpoint 10: A window in the assembly hall. All windows are constructed in hardwood painted white, the detailing is more complicated than the detailing for the walls and the result is more refined, but possibly not more successful.

Viewpoint 9: The internal doors are of flush plywood painted white, with an unpainted hardwood frame and painted moulding. Conduit is concealed within the walling, but here as in many contemporary buildings the need for a new range of electrical fittings for unplastered walls is clearly apparent.

analysis

CLIENT'S BRIEF: his stated requirements

Hall and classroom unit for fifty trainees at the Teachers' Training College, as an addition to existing scheduled building. To harmonize with existing structure. Classrooms for botany and small room for music.

SITE: topography, surroundings, access, planting

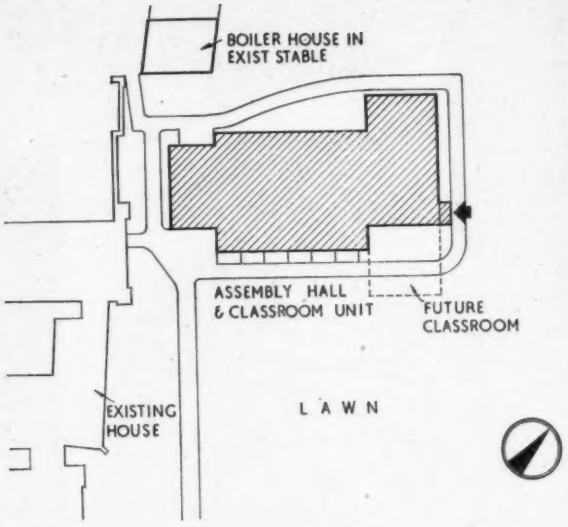
Site is existing garden between lawn and old stable block. Mature lawn with trees. Access from stable courtyard.

PLAN: general appreciation and relation of units

Simple hall to seat 200 with entrance lobby and music room and lavatories at one end; botany classroom and stage with separate entrance at other end. Space planned for additional classroom.

MAIN CONSTRUCTION: general appreciation and relation of units

Built up timber wall as frame, cladding and insulation. Built up timber beam roof provides wind bracing. Wall built of 3-ft. timber panels consisting of 4½ in. by 3 in. staggered tongued and grooved members, framed with timber head and sill plates. Main roof beams consist of 3 in. by 3 in. members, built up to form an open web beam, and using plywood gusset plates. Secondary beams pass through main beams at right angles using 3 ft. 4 in. grid. Wall is built on a 4-in. module



Site plan

	s	d
cost per sq. ft.		
preliminaries and insurances	1	10
contingencies	1	2

STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS

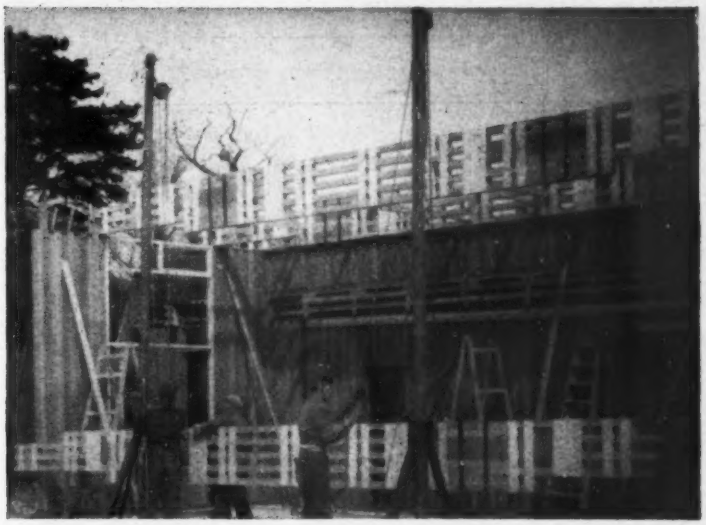
Work below ground floor level: foundation type and basement	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
Strip foundation and concrete floor slab	Throughout	Reinforced concrete				
				work below ground floor level	3	11

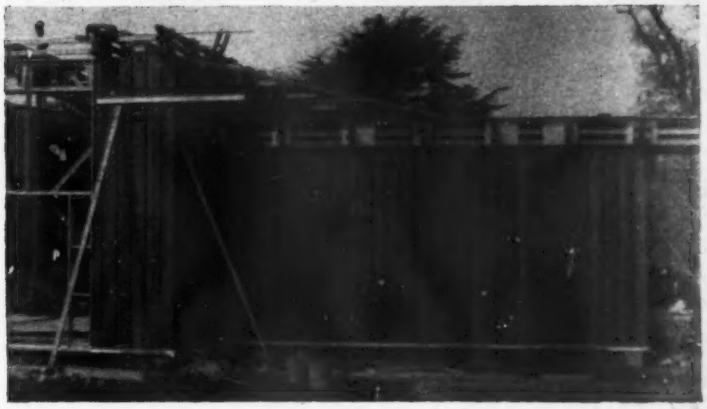
External walls and facings	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
Built up hardwood members	Throughout	Keruing hardwood	Natural	Speed and ease of erection		
				external walls and facings	9	4

Roof construction	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
Flat	Throughout	Built up softwood timber beams and plywood gusset plates	Boarding and two-layer roofing felt	Speed and ease of erection		
				roof construction	9	11

analysis

These two photographs show the building during the course of construction (the work was completed in four months), the simplicity of which can be seen in the open web beams and their connection to the extended wall members.





					s	d
Windows	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
Timber, purpose made	Throughout	Red meranti hardwood	Painted white	Hardwood allows thin sections to be obtained		
				windows	**2**	**0**
External doors	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
Flush glazed	Lobbies	Flush plyfaced				
French glazed	Assembly hall	Hardwood framed	Painted			
				external doors	**0**	**10**
Glazing	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
Windows	Hall and classrooms	32 oz.				
	Cloakrooms	Obscured				
External doors	Throughout	¼-in. plate georgian wired				
				glazing	**0**	**8**

PARTITIONING

Internal partitions	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
	Where non-structural	Plasterboard	Emulsion painted			
				internal partitions	**0**	**10**
Screens	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
Boiler chamber	Existing farm building converted					
External heating duct						
				screens	**2**	**4**

analysis

					s	d
W.c. doors and partitions	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
Plasterboard partitions and flush wood doors	Non load-bearing partitions		Distempered			
				w.c. doors and partitions	**0**	**8**
Internal doors	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
Flush wood	Throughout	Plyfaced	Painted			
				internal doors	**0**	**9**
Ironmongery to internal doors	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
Satin chrome finish	Throughout	Alloy				
				ironmongery to internal doors	**0**	**2**

FINISHINGS

Floor finishes	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Cost per sq. yd.* s.	d.	*Reasons and comments*		
	Hall and entrance lobby	Hardwood block	Plastic seal	35	0			
	Classrooms and lavatories	Thermoplastic tiles		20	0			
						floor finishes	**3**	**11**
Wall finishes	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*				
Structural wall untreated	Generally	Natural hardwood	Emulsion	Simplicity and economy of maintenance				
Pin up rails	Classroom	Medium hardboard	Emulsion paint					
				wall finishes	**0**	**3**		
Ceiling finishes	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*				
	Throughout	Fibreboard	Distemper					
				ceiling finishes	**2**	**4**		
Decorations	*Location*	*Paint types*	*Munsell or other ref.*	*Colour scheme and comments*				
	Hardwood windows	Gloss paint		Natural timber and white paint in contrast				
	Ceilings	Water paint						
	Pin up boards	Emulsion paint						
				hardwood windows	**0**	**5**		
				ceilings	**0**	**4**		
				pin up boards	**0**	**1½**		

FITTINGS

Cloakrooms	*Location*	*Materials*	*Reasons and comments*		
	Off main lobby	Satin chrome alloy coat hooks on wood rails			
			cloakroom fittings	**0**	**1**

SERVICES

Rain water disposal	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
Rain water pipes	External	Aluminium	Natural			
				rain water disposal	**0**	**3**
Plumbing internal: waste disposal	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
	Cloakrooms	Copper piping				
				plumbing internal	**1**	**1**
Cold water storage						
Direct from mains						
Sanitary fittings	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
	Lavatories, classroom sink	Glazed fireclay				
				sanitary fittings: included in plumbing internal		

analysis

					s	d
Heating installation: heat exchanger type	*Location*	*Criteria temp.*	*Air change rate*	*Reasons and comments*		
Forced warm air	Hall, large classroom	65°				
Radiators	Music room, cloaks	65°				
				heating installation	**8**	**5**
Boiler type and capacity	*Location*	*Heat load and fuel type*	*Stoking method*	*Reasons and comments*		
Oil fired	Boiler chamber	Oil	Automatic, thermostatically controlled			
				boiler type and capacity: included in heating installation		
Water heater type	*Location*	*Fuel type*	*Stoking method*	*Reasons and comments*		
Electric storage type	Cloakroom	Electricity				
				water heater type: included in heating installation		
Drainage: type of system	*Location*	*Materials*	*Finish*	*Reasons and comments*		
Foul to septic tank, surface water to existing soak away		Earthenware pipes				
				drainage	**1**	**7**
Electrical installation: source and fitting type	*Location*	*Illumination level*	*Quality*	*Reasons and comments*		
Electricity board						
Tungsten lamps						
				electrical installation	**2**	**9**
Wiring and switching types	*Location*	*Materials*	*Reasons and comments*			
Tough rubber with plastic switches						
				wiring and switching types: included in electrical installation		
Paved areas	*Location*	*Materials*	*Reasons and comments*			
	Access paths	Gravel				
	Terrace	Slabs, coloured precast concrete				
				access paths	**0**	**4**
				terrace	**0**	**2**
				total net cost per sq. ft. of floor	**56**	**5¼**

THERMAL INSULATION

Type	*Location*	*U-value*	*Reasons and comments*
External walling	Throughout	0.23	High thermal insulation value obtained by untreated timber wall

SPECIAL ACOUSTICAL TREATMENT

Sound absorption material	*Location*	*Absorption coefficient*	*Reasons and comments*
None			

FIRE

Structural precautions	*Planning precautions*	*Reasons and comments*
3-in. solid walling	None	3-in. solid timber walls give a high resistance to fire

analysis

RATIOS

Area of enclosing walls / Total floor area	2480 / 2486	Area of windows (including external doors) / Total floor area	814 / 2486
Area of solid wall / Total floor area	1666 / 2486	Total roof area / Total floor area	2708 / 2486

TIME SCHEDULE

Drawings	*Tender date*	*Contract signed*	*Work commenced*	*Work completed*	*Type of contract*	*Comments*
July 1, 1954	November 25, 1954	February 15, 1955	March 1, 1955	June 30, 1955 (except for boiler house)	RIBA (no Bill of Quantities)	Building officially opened on July 2, 1955, four months after work was commenced

COST ANALYSIS

Floor area	2575 sq. ft.
Net cost	£7270
External works	£210
Gross cost	£7553
Cost per sq. ft.	£2 16*s.* 5½*d.*

Plan accommodation	*Area in sq. ft.*	*Per cent. of total*
Hall	1425	57.6
Store	90	3.6
Classrooms	640	25.5
Sanitary accommodation	75	3.0
Service	150	6.0
Circulation	105	4.3
Total	2486	100

COST COMMENTS

This scheme is another illustration of load-bearing wall construction with the roof providing the necessary wind bracing and a fast erection time on the site. It can be closely related to the Welwyn Garden City Health Centre (See AJ Feb. 2) incorporating the "Punt" system of construction. A straightforward comparison of the carcase shows the following result:

Element	*Offley Training College* *s. d.*	*Health Centre at Welwyn Garden City* *s. d.*
External walls and facings	9 4	9 3 (adjusted to Offley)
Frame		8
Roof	9 11	11 4 (incl. roof lights)
Windows and external doors	2 10	4 3
Internal partitions	10	5 10
Ceiling finishes	2 4	Included in roof
Wall finishes	3	Included in external and internal walls
Decorations	10½	1 2
	28 3½	32 6

It should be noted that the nature of the Offley Teachers' Training College scheme produces a high wall-to-floor ratio of 1 : 1, but the form of construction used has kept the initial cost down to competitive limits with the ultimate saving of reduced maintenance costs. Note also that the few dividing partitions did not form an integral part of the structure as did the partitions of the Welwyn Garden City Health Centre.

The heating installation costs are relatively high due to (*a*) separate boiler house with heating supply duct, (*b*) larger boiler installation, installed to allow for future extension.

It is interesting to note that although this is a specification contract without a bill of quantities, the contractor has co-operated in providing sufficient cost information for an analysis to be prepared. It is hoped that this applied information is as useful to the contractor as it is to the architect in showing where costs are distributed throughout the building.

CONTRACTORS

General contractors: W. J. Cooper (Barnsbury). *Contractors for timber structure:* J. Thorn & Sons Ltd. *Sub-contractors:—Ironmongery:* James Gibbons Ltd. *Heating:* Weatherfoil Heating Systems Ltd. *Lighting fittings:* Merchant Adventurers of London Ltd. *Curtains:* Gerald Holtom. *Wood block flooring:* Horsley Smith & Co. Ltd. *Sanitary plumbing and fittings:* Stitson White & Co. Ltd. *Paint and distemper:* Aspinalls (Paints) Ltd. *Roofing:* Permanite Ltd. *Fibreboard ceiling:* Celotex Ltd. *Water heaters:* Aidas Electric Ltd. *Precast pavings:* Noelite Ltd. *Thermoplastic tiles:* Marley Tile Co. Ltd.

Architects' Journal 7.6.56

working detail

CURTAIN WALL: OFFICE BLOCK IN LONDON, E.C.1

Handisyde and Taylor, in association with Hammett and Norton, architects



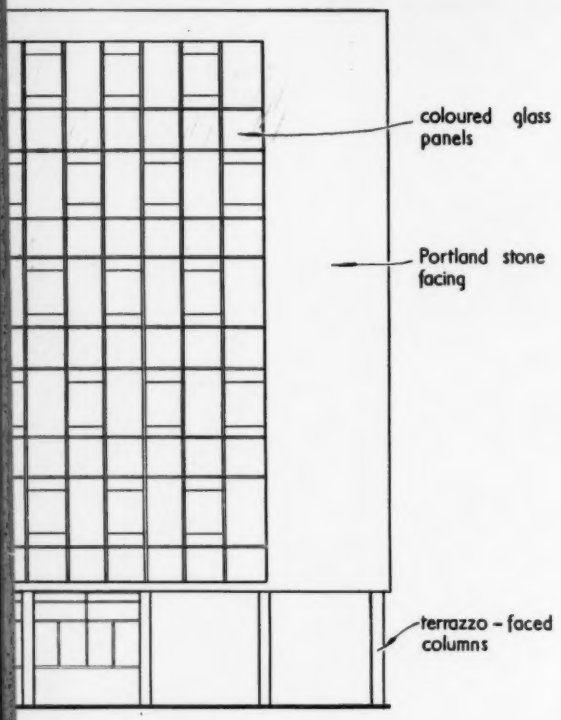
Lengths of 5 in. by 2½ in. r.s. channel are bolted to stanchions and to the structural floors, with ½-in. strips of fibreboard between. To these channels are screwed the two 12 s.w.g. steel pressings which form the mullion. The space behind the coloured glass panels is ventilated and at the foot of each intermediate panel is a spring steel flashing which directs any condensation through a narrow gap between the foot of the coloured glass and the frame. It was decided to zinc-spray all the steel parts in preference to galvanising.

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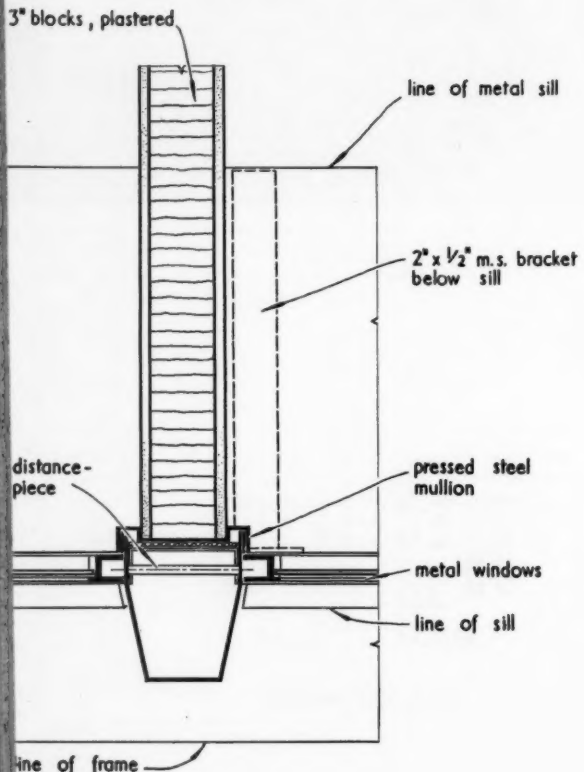
working detail

CURTAIN WALL: OFFICE BLOCK IN LONDON, E.C.1

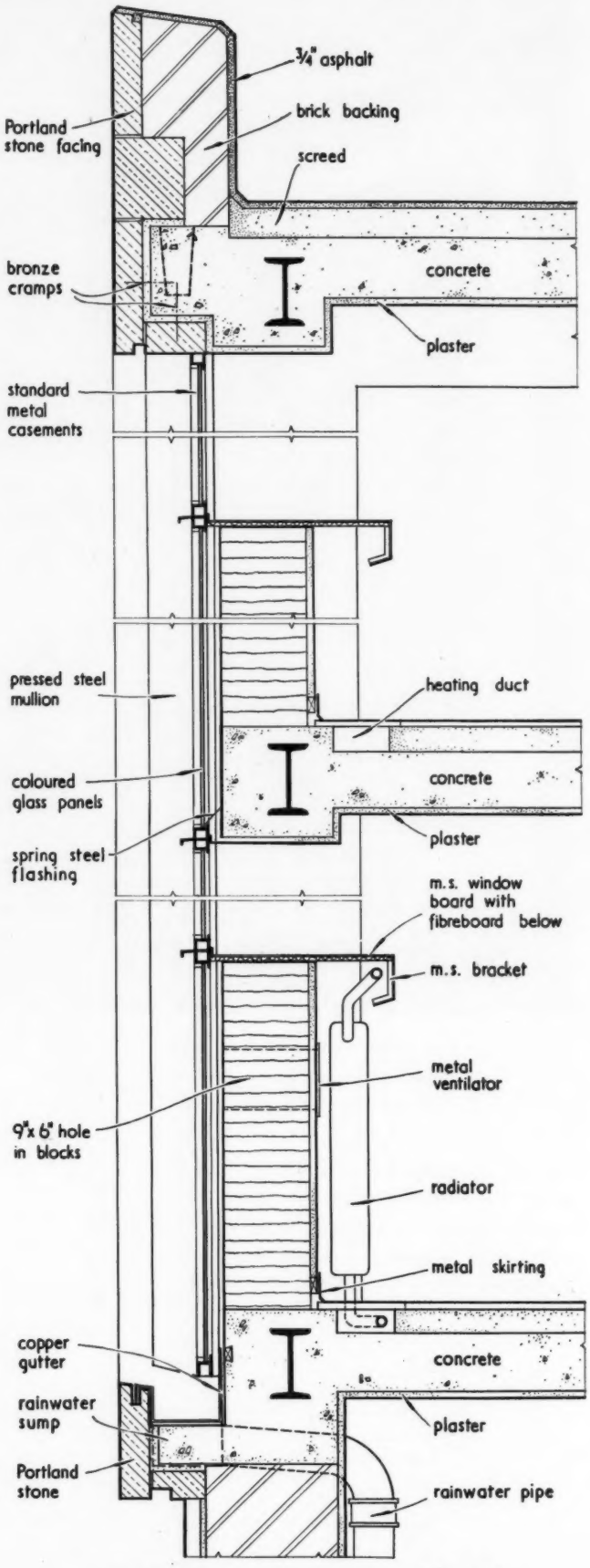
Handisyde and Taylor, in association with Hammett and Norton, architects



KEY ELEVATION. scale 1/16" 1'-0"



PLAN OF MULLION. scale 1½" = 1'-0"



SECTION OF GLAZING. scale ¾" = 1'-0"

working detail

ROOFS AND CEILINGS: 32

NORTHLIGHT ROOF: LABORATORIES AT DARTFORD, KENT

Waterhouse and Ripley, architects



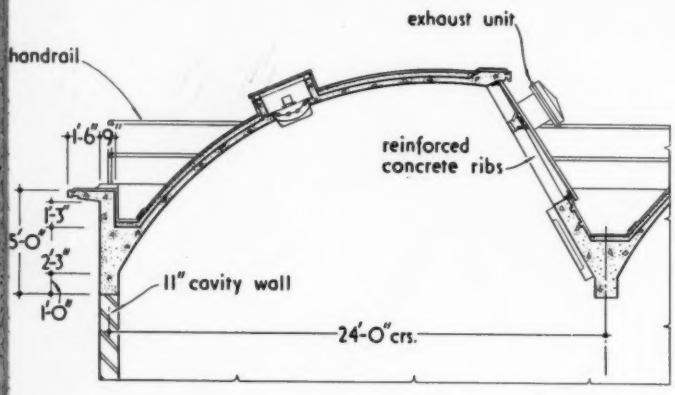
Panel radiators are sited immediately below the glazing to prevent down-draughts. Access to the fluorescent lights is by means of upstand hatches reached from above.

working detail

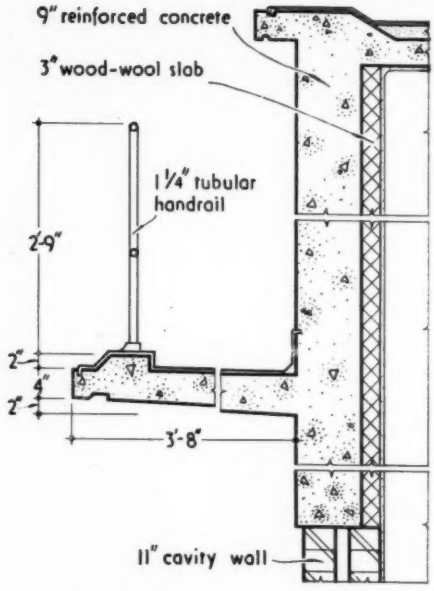
ROOFS AND CEILINGS: 32

NORTHLIGHT ROOF: LABORATORIES AT DARTFORD, KENT

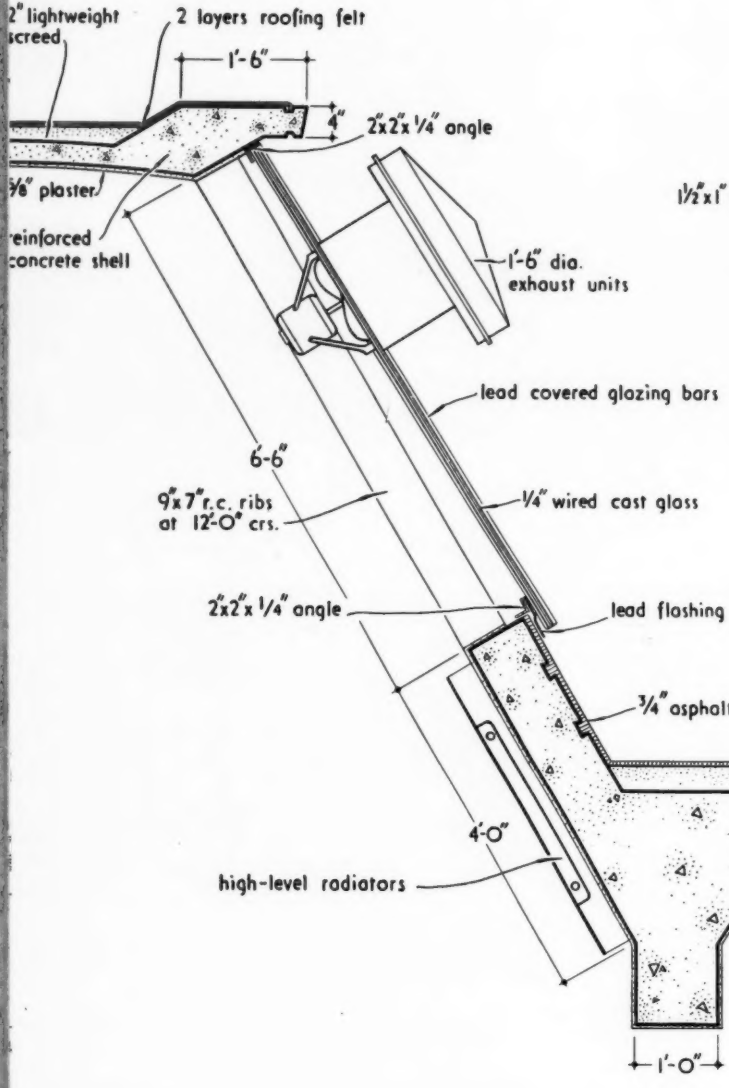
Waterhouse and Ripley, architects



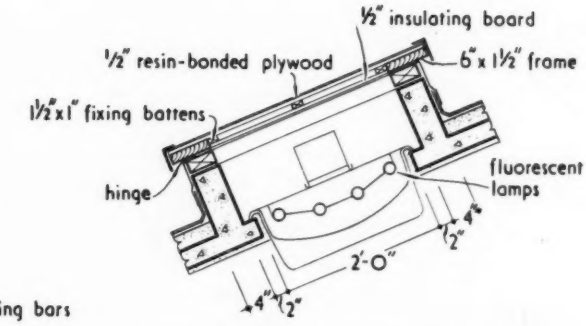
SECTION THRO' BARREL VAULT ROOF. scale ⅛"= 1'-0"



SECTION THRO' END WALL. scale ½"= 1'-0"



SECTION THRO' NORTH LIGHT. scale ½"= 1'-0"



SECTION THRO' LIGHTING TROUGH.
scale ½"= 1'-0"

Announcements

PROFESSIONAL

Basil Gillinson, DIPL. ARCH., A.R.I.B.A., has taken into partnership Clifford Barnett, M.A., B.ARCH., A.R.I.B.A., DIP. C.D. The practice is now to be known as Gillinson & Barnett, of 8, Queen Square, Leeds, 2.

TRADE

Mr. John M. Robb, Manager of the Overseas Division of Expandite Ltd., Chase Road, London, N.W.10, will visit France on June 11, 1956. He will attend a conference of the Engineers of Grenoble on June 14.

Cable & Wireless Ltd. have recently changed their address to Mercury House, 110/124, Theobalds Road, London, W.C.1.

Mr. John Winton has been appointed assistant to the General Sales Manager—Office Equipment—of Remington Rand Ltd.

British Plimber Ltd., manufacturers of Plimberite, the resin-bonded wood chipboard, have appointed Alan Watson, of 18, Walter Road, Swansea, as their Technical Representative for South Wales. He succeeds Frank Lennon, who will continue to cover south and south-west England for British Plimber Ltd.

Mr. I. J. O'Hea, Chairman and Managing Director of Colt Ventilation Ltd. and W. H. Colt (London) Ltd., has returned to England after a two months' tour of the United States and Canada. He has visited Colt's subsidiary company in Toronto and finalized the formation of their new American company in Los Angeles, California, "Colt Ventilation of America Inc."

Col. R. P. W. Adeane has joined the board of the Ruberoid Co. Ltd., 1-19, New Oxford Street, W.C.1. He is also chairman of Cochran & Co., Annan Ltd., and a director of Ransomes & Rapier Ltd. and Consolidated Trust Ltd.

The third Annual General Meeting and Conference of FIDOR was held at the Krasnapolsky Hotel, Amsterdam, on May 31 and June 1.

The Post Office, in appealing for good size letter-box apertures for new houses, is seeking the co-operation of architects, builders and local authorities. Many of the existing apertures are too small, and for private residences the Post Office suggests 8 in. × 1¼ in. This size has recently been adopted as a standard by the *British Standards Institution.*

GENERAL

The Butterley Company of Derby announce that they are shortly going into production with a new light-weight aggregate of American origin for which they are the concessionaires in this country. This product, which is to be marketed under the name "Aglite," is a bloated carbonaceous shale. It is at present under test at BRS, but American test figures show that it has a compressive strength of over 2,000 p.s.i., which is much greater than that of other comparable products on the English market. The material has a K value of from 2·2 when used in lighter mixes and of over 3 when used in heavier mixes. Blocks made from it are nailable and can provide bearing for ordinary wood screws. Manufacture will begin at Derby in the autumn and will later be extended to other parts of the country.

A questionnaire is being sent to every local housing authority in England and Wales by the Minister of Housing and Local Government (Duncan Sandys), asking for information on the housing of old people. This action follows the Minister's statement in the House of Commons on May 1 announcing that he had decided to enquire into the arrangements that are being made for housing elderly persons with the object of seeing whether, having regard to the requirements of other sections of the population, old people are receiving a reasonable share of the accommodation provided, and whether this is of the kind best suited to their physical needs and financial circumstances. Mr. Sandys added in his statement that while this information was being collected, a qualified Ministry official would go and see schemes of various kinds in different parts of the country and report to him, and that he also intended to seek the views of the Central Housing Advisory Committee on the problem. The questionnaire to local authorities seeks such information as the number of old people on the council's waiting list, the numbers and types of new houses and flats provided for old people, the range of inclusive rents, and whether hot water, central heating or other services are provided. Councils are asked if they make special arrangements for the welfare of old people in these dwellings by employing wardens or caretakers or by seeking the help of local health and welfare authorities, and voluntary bodies. They are also asked to state what community facilities may have been provided; for example, common rooms, laundry facilities and visitors rooms, and whether they have provided a hostel with board for old people under Housing Act powers.

Sir Hugh Casson is visiting various parts of England to describe, in a series of six

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Home Service talks called "A Journey Through Subtopia," the effect of drab and depressing "development" in town and country, and what may ensue. They will be heard on Wednesdays from June 6, at 7.30—8 p.m. In his first talk Sir Hugh will tell listeners what is happening in North Oxfordshire; in later talks he will deal in turn with Norwich, Croydon and Crawley, the North Yorkshire coast, Dartmoor and Lancashire. He will also give the views of people he meets in this cross-section of England. "Subtopia" was also the subject of a Current Affairs broadcast to schools by W. G. Hoskins in the "Talks for Sixth Forms" series, on Friday, June 1, in the Home Service.

The RIBA Golfing Society's spring meeting was this year held at Denham Golf Club on May 10. The meeting was played in excellent weather, 22 members being in attendance. In the morning the Sullivan Trophy was competed for, the winner being H. Cullerne Pratt, A.R.I.B.A., with a score of 82 less 9 = 73. The runner up was L. C. Lomas F.R.I.B.A., the County Architect to Worcester with a score of 93 less 19 = 74. In the afternoon a four-ball bogey competition was played, the winners being Eric Firmin, F.R.I.B.A. and John Grey, F.R.I.B.A., with the excellent score of six up. The runners-up were Douglas White, A.R.I.B.A. and J. W. McGregor, F.R.I.B.A. —four up. Golfing Architects wishing to join the Society should contact the Honorary Secretary, S. H. Statham, A.R.I.B.A., Messrs. Sydney Clough, Son & Partners, Devonshire Close, 39, Devonshire Street, W.1. (Telephone: Langham 7101/2/3.)

Messrs. Lewis's Ltd. have held a Competition for a Mural in the Restaurant of their new building which is at present in course of erection at Bristol. The competition was organized by the Society of Mural Painters and the assesors were S. H. Leake, the Chairman of the Company, Eric Newton, and Sir Percy Thomas, architect for the building. Nineteen designs were received and the assessors have made their award as follows:—1st prize (£250), Mary Adshead; 2nd prize (£150), Barbara Jones; 3rd prize (£100), Laurence Scarfe.

The National Employers' Federation of the Mastic Asphalt Industry and the Felt Roofing Contractors' Advisory Board have recognized for some time that it is no longer normal practice in the building industry for specialist trades to issue guarantees, particularly as modern contract conditions in the RIBA and other Forms of Contract in common use lay down specific requirements as to periods and conditions relating to the Defects Liability of the Specialist contractor. Long-term guarantees (they say) no doubt served their useful purpose in the asphalt and built-up roofing industries in the past, when these materials were untried and unproved, but such a basis for their well-established industries is now considered to be outdated and unnecessary. The National Employers' Federation of the Mastic Asphalt Industry and The Felt Roofing Contractors' Advisory Board have therefore decided to reduce the length of guarantee and also to issue a form of guarantee common to both bodies, and announce that as from July 1, 1956, all their members will, on request, issue this guarantee covering a period of twelve months from the practical completion date of the main contract for mastic asphalt or built-up felt roofing, dampcoursing and tanking and asphalt flooring against approved specifications. This one-year period will operate irrespective of the length of maintenance or defects liability period appropriate to the main contract. Any guarantee already in being will, of course, continue without change. Architects and other customers from their long experience of these two well-known waterproofing materials will appreciate that the amended period of guarantee does not in any way represent the true life of the materials.

In the one-day conference being organized in Glasgow on June 19 on industry and technical education, special prominence is being given to education for the building industry. The Glasgow and West of Scotland Regional Advisory Council, who have arranged the conference, are investigating the needs of industry and commerce in the different fields of technical training. At the conference, at which Andrew Hood, Lord Provost of Glasgow, Lord Strathclyde, the Minister of State for Scotland, and Sir Walter Puckey will speak, there will also be an afternoon period devoted to group discussion of the particular industrial fields. The group considering education in building will have the chairman of the Scottish Building Apprenticeship Council, R. Smith, as chairman, and as main speaker N. C. Sidwell, head of the building department at the Heriot-Watt College, Edinburgh. Other fields being considered include commerce, distributive trades, electrical, mechanical and production engineering, with a summary of group conclusions at the end of the conference. The chairman of the regional council sponsoring the day's proceedings is the managing director of The Belmos Co. Ltd., T. Coughtrie.

Myles Dove, a young British architect, is to give his impressions of Le Corbusier's vast block of flats in a suburb of Marseilles, "L'Unité d'Habitation", in a Home Service talk on Friday, June 8, at 4.15—4.30 p.m. which he calls "Streets in the Air."

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